

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

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WEEKLY

YOUNG GOAL ACE READY



Les Scheinflug: praise

BY ROBERT GALVIN

Striker Paul Agostino is determined to re-pay coach Les Scheinflug's faith when Australia opens its World Youth Cup campaign against Columbia on Friday.

The Young Boys of Berne star has been hailed as a world class player for his age by Scheinflug as he prepares for the showdown with the South Americans at the Sydney Football Stadium.

"I will be playing my heart out for my country - and with a little luck I'll do the business for the team," said Agostino, 17.

Teenager Paul poised to strike

"I do not try to put any pressure on myself to score goals - if I miss a chance I just try harder to make the next one."

Agostino has missed the Young Socceroos preparations for the tournament because of his club commitments in Europe.

Young Boys, who paid \$350,000 to take the teenager to Switzerland,

refused to release him for Scheinflug's tour to the Middle East last month.

But Scheinflug has made it clear Agostino, who has scored two goals for Young Boys in five first team appearances, is an automatic choice in the national side.

"Paul is a born striker and a vital part of the team," said Scheinflug.

Agostino is convinced

Australia can make an impact in the youth World Cup.

"We can compete with the best in the world and that is what we will do at this tournament."

"Australia's young players are getting better and there is so much talent out there," he added.

His only appearance at youth level came in the friendly against Brazil last December when he scored Australia's goal in a 1-1 draw.

He played for the Joeys at the Under-17 World Championships in Italy two years ago, when European scouts first became aware of his talent.

Brazil tip Portugal

Brazilian coach Julio Leal expects titleholder Portugal to be one of the toughest teams in the World Youth Championships, as both nations vie for the honour of being the first country to seize the title three times.

Brazil snatched the World Youth title in 1983 and 1985, while Portugal clinched the Championship in 1989 and again in 1991, by eclipsing Brazil in a nail-biting final.

Leal said the Portuguese were sure to be in good form for the Championships.

"Portugal is doing nicely," he said.

"I'm sure they are also in good shape for the Championship."

Leal said Brazil was also considered one of the favourites for the Championships to be played in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane and Adelaide from March 5-20, but it was important to focus on each match and not look too far ahead.

The Brazilians were the first team to arrive for the Championships, with Leal adamant that a good build-up under local conditions was imperative for success in Australia.

Leal has nine new players in the team that toured Australia in December as a prelude to the Youth Championship. The new faces had been unavailable for the matches against the Young Socceroos because of club commitments in Brazil.

"I think they can add some more experience, some more tactics even," he said.



Paul Agostino celebrates after putting Australia ahead against Brazil

Don't miss your twice-weekly ABSW

No rush for 'Roos

SCHAEFER SCOFFS AT TALK OF EURO EXODUS

SYDNEY CSC coach Manfred Schaefer has scoffed at suggestions Australian youth players will automatically be snapped up by overseas club at the World Youth Championship.

Australian coach Les Scheinflug has said he will ensure "minders" keep all unwanted guests away from the Young Socceroos at their Hilton Hotel base in Sydney.

"They (scouts) will be there of course, but we have nothing else on our mind at the moment but the tournament," Scheinflug said. "We will be looking after the boys to make sure they are not in the path of these people until the right time."

But Schaefer believes the speculation surrounding Australian players leaving to playing in Europe is

premature. "We all get carried away with World Youth Championship. As far as I'm concerned they haven't made it yet."

"Until now they really haven't achieved anything — on a world basis, nothing at all."

"The offers will come if they perform on the World stage."

Among the youth squad are two of Schaefer's Sydney CSC side — defender Ante Moric and forward Ante Milicic.

"I've spoken to both boys and all they're interested in is to play in these games."

Since Moric and Milicic have played sparingly this year at Sydney CSC, Schaefer is

reluctant to place any wraps on them, except to say they were sorely missed by his club.

Schaefer's beleaguered team is beset by injuries, compounded by its terrible league form in recent weeks, four straight losses with a 1-10 goal difference.

Only 12 players trained, leaving Schaefer to comment: "When you run out of players there's not much you can do about it. Obviously things can't get any worse."

"I haven't got much to play with, so I can't go around dropping players."

Schaefer is resigned to losing both Moric and Milicic for the two



The 1993 Young Socceroos: how many will join European clubs?

matches, as they are certain starters for the opening game against Colombia at the Sydney Football Stadium on Friday following their outstanding form during

the recent Middle East tour.

"I've got a feeling he doesn't want to risk these players," said Schaefer.

However, Schaefer had

hoped the Australian Soccer Federation may have deferred the NSL Cup semi-final until after the break for the World Youth Championship in Australia.

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Brisbane United coach Miron Bleiberg is poised to put Dutch midfielder Fred Kruis on a six-month trial before deciding whether to sign him.

Bleiberg wants the 22-year-old to play for

Brisbane Lions in Queensland's State League this winter.

Kruis, who played for Dutch first division side De Graafschap last year, has been training at Perry Park for two weeks - but Bleiberg has not made his mind up about a

permanent move.

"I would like to see how he goes in the state league before making a decision," said Bleiberg, who is looking for a playmaker to bolster the struggling Queenslanders next season.

"Fred is obviously a

quality player but I have to be sure he can provide what the side needs.

"His Dutch side were relegated at the end of last season and Fred wants to come to Australia for two years," added Bleiberg.

He heard of Brisbane

through Queensland-born Socceroo Jason Polak who was his team-mate in Holland last season.

United are also looking to sign Tahiti international midfielder Reynald Temmari, 24, in time for next season.



Miron Bleiberg's Brisbane United in action

CELTIC ADD UP TOUR SUMS



Celtic and Scotland star Paul McStay: will be a huge draw

Glasgow giant mulls over cash offer to take on Australia

BY ROBERT GALVIN

ASF chief executive Ian Holmes was waiting for Glasgow Celtic to confirm their tour of Australia in May will go ahead.

The Scottish giant has been lined up as opponents for the Socceroos as they warm up for the World Cup qualifiers against New Zealand.

A Celtic representative last week met with ASF officials who are waiting to hear if their cash terms have been accepted.

The Scottish premier league side are expected to play two games in the run-up to Australia's clash with the Kiwis in Auckland on May 29.

"The matter is now with Celtic - the ball is in their court," said Holmes.

He said Celtic asked for a match fee, but he refused to reveal the amount involved.

Holmes said he wants to move away from agreed payments in favour of offering tour sides a percentage of gate receipts.

"This gives overseas teams an incentive to promote the games once they get to Australia," he said.

Celtic, who are expected to play the Socceroos in Sydney and Melbourne, became a target because New Zealand has adopted a British style of play.

"It makes sense for us to play a team from Britain before the World Cup games," added Holmes. National coach Eddie



Tommy Coyne: Australia-bound?

Thomson made contact with Parkhead bosses when he was in Europe last month for the Socceroo training camp.

Celtic are having a miserable season after being knocked out of both domestic cup competitions.

In the league, Liam Brady's side are way adrift

of arch-rivals Rangers, who look certain to capture their fourth successive title.

But despite their poor form in Scotland, Celtic are perfect tour opponents, according to Socceroo captain Paul Wade.

Their physical, hard running game will be ideal preparation for the Kiwis.

Lineker wanted for Cup promo boost

ASF chief keen to enlist former England ace to lure fans to WYC finals

English superstar Gary Lineker will be asked to help promote the World Youth Cup when he arrives in Australia with his new Japanese club Grampus Eight.

ASF chief executive Ian Holmes will contact the former England captain in the hope Lineker will be available.

"A player of Lineker's calibre and reputation will be a great asset in marketing the tournament," said Holmes.

"If he's prepared and has

the opportunity to help out, we would be foolish not to take up the offer."

Lineker, 32, will be in Tasmania for a two week club training camp, involving a match against the state side in Hobart on March 13.

The former Leicester, Everton, Barcelona and Tottenham ace, nearing the end of his career, signed for Grampus last year.

But Holmes made it clear Lineker, who won 80 England caps, scoring 48 goals, would not be paid an appearance fee to promote

the WYC.

"If he is available, we would obviously look to cover air fares and accommodation," said Holmes.

Holmes said Lineker could make the short trip to Melbourne, where England are playing in Group C along with Turkey, Korea and the United States.

"I'm sure it would be a big morale boost for the the English lads if he could drop in to wish them well," said Holmes.

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Master marksman Lineker in Grampus colours

SCHEINFLUG KEEPS THE SCOUTS AT BAY

By GREG TRUMAN

Australia's young stars have been shepherd away to avoid falling into the clutches of European talent scouts in the buildup to the World Youth Championships.

Australian coach Les Scheinflug said he has ensured "minders" kept all unwanted guests away from the Young Socceroos at their Hilton Hotel base in Sydney.

"They (scouts) will be there of course, but we have nothing else on our mind at the moment but the tournament," Scheinflug said.

"We will be looking after the boys to make sure they are not in the path of these people until the right time."

There is little doubt some of the talented squad will be bargain buys for rich European clubs.

As many as half of the Australian squad could be farmed out for potential professional careers if they perform up to expectations in the 16-team tournament.

Scheinflug might do well to appoint his burliest security men



Young socceroos in action in recent series against Korea

to guard the door of the youngest player, Craig Moore.

The 17-year-old sweeper is

already a class player and should have international agents lining up for his signature at the end of

the tournament.

But the Queenslander wasn't looking any further north than his



Youth coach Les Scheinflug: wary of scouts

Brisbane home when he arrived back in Sydney from the Middle East with Young Socceroos last week.

"It's great to be able to play and train full-time and one day I'd like to do that all the time, but all that's down the track," he said.

"Of course you think of these things, but not now. All we can

think about is the championship."

Others likely to be in the spotlight are captain Kevin Muscat and elegant midfielder Sean Cranney.

Striker Paul Agostino is already carving out a professional career with Swiss club Young Boys of Berne.

AAP

KICK OFF WITH LES MURRAY

WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP GREATS

AN AGPS PRESS PUBLICATION

Australia's 'Mr Soccer', Les Murray, presents eleven of his favourite international soccer stars from Carlos Aguilera and Marco Van Basten to the legendary Diego Maradona. All share the common bond of having been discovered through their participation in the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup.

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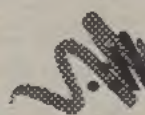
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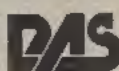
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AUSTRALIA TIPPED FOR USA 1994

FROM THE HIP

with Lou Gautier



Socceroo captain Paul Wade hopes World Cup prediction comes true

The influential, mass circulation A FOOTBALL magazine has tipped Australia to reach the finals of USA '94.

In its midway review of all World Cup qualifying groups, the magazine picks Australia to eliminate New Zealand before accounting for El Salvador, which FRANCE FOOTBALL tips to finish second behind Mexico in the final phase of the CONCACAF tournament.

No surprises so far, as the Socceroos would have to be favourites to make it to the decisive third and final play-off against South American opposition.

The French publication predicts that Brazil and Uruguay will qualify from South America's Group B, and that Argentina will win Group A.

It selects Colombia as the runner-up in that group, but picks the Socceroos to knock

them out in their home and away play-off in November.

FRANCE FOOTBALL explains its choice by writing that it's about time Australian soccer was taken seriously.

"Australia is now a serious player on the international football stage as results in the youth and Olympic tournaments have demonstrated.

"There's every indication that this trend will continue at senior level.

"USA '94 will prove that Australia is a football nation to contend with," the magazine concludes.

This should be a great confidence boost for Eddie Thomson's squad, but predictions often don't come true.

Remember, this is the same magazine that proclaimed Holland as favourites to win the soccer gold medal at the Barcelona Olympics.

YOUNG TURK OUT OF WYC

Star Turkish midfielder Okan broke a leg in two places in the first leg of the Turkish Cup semi-final and will not play again this season for Galatasaray or the national youth team.

Okan is one of the outstanding players in Turkey, and played a major part in Turkey's European Under 20 Championship win.

He was to have been Turkey's playmaker at Australia '93

and will be missed when Turkey takes on England, the USA and South Korea in Melbourne.

Unless English expatriates wake up from their apathy (ticket sales in Melbourne have been abysmal), they will be swamped by Turkish fans.

Some 3,000 are travelling from Sydney to link up with members of the Turkish community in Melbourne to provide a 6,000-strong support at Olympic Park.

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— with Bruce Campbell —

ETHNIC NAMES

Probably the most difficult situation I have had to endure in football writing is to try and justify the National League's decision to drop ethnic names.

I know the marketing and professional answers, and have used them often when trying to explain the reason to readers and followers of the game.

But, quite frankly, it just doesn't sit well with me.

I get the feeling that someone has made a monumental blunder. What makes me more sure of that is the amount of communication I receive on the subject - either by letter, phone, or in day to day general conversation.

History is full of occasions when governments and administrations have imposed bad laws, and, I believe, that this is another instance.

But I do not believe that it has been done than for any other reason than the future of football.

The reason that I think it is a retrograde step is quite simple - the people don't want it.

I appreciate the desire to have clubs which are representative of more than a minor part of the community, but that situation won't be achieved by calling Adelaide City Juventus, for example, Adelaide City. No-one has been fooled. And anyway, what is wrong with an Italian backed club?

If any club in this land can provide the facilities (another totally different question) and raise the playing standard to that required to compete in the National League then that club should be able to call its team whatever it wants - subject to the normal laws of the land and good taste.

I too would dearly love to see another Australian community based team playing in the top flight, but I believe also that the time will come when all of our teams will be community based because that's the way of evolution.

BRING BACK THE FUN

While on the subject of bad laws, I have to brand the FIFA directed decree on stamping down on player celebrations as totally absurd.

The players are now making a mockery of it by running to the sideline after scoring and then standing to attention.

If our grounds aren't safe enough then let's get them up to standard - we can't inhibit players because of silliness.

I for one am more likely to be incensed when watching a game if I see a crude or deliberate foul go unpunished.

What is going to happen in amateur games - are referees going to stop players crossing the sideline after scoring in fear of them inciting two dogs and a stray cat?

My favourite 'after-scoring-action' in Australian football must be Billy Wright's gun-toting antics. The guy has to be seen to be believed.

Good on you Billy, keep the fun in the game.

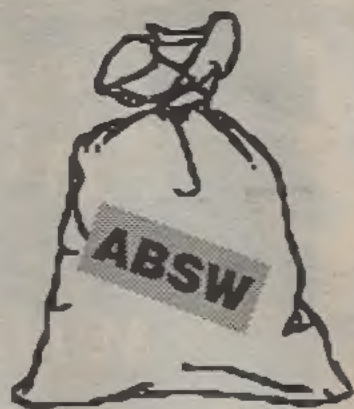
SPARE A THOUGHT FOR EDDIE

Who would really like to be in Eddie Thomson's shoes? The national coach picks home-based players for the World Cup games against the Solomons and Tahiti, and then gets abused for poor showings. He picks overseas players - and, yes, that's right, he still gets abused.

Makes you think that sometimes you can't do right for doing wrong.

But Eddie loves every minute of it and won't shirk in his task of reaching the World Cup finals.

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**MITRE SOCCER
STAR LETTER**
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get it off your chest
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the week.

SBS BIAS?

I wish to display my annoyance at the Match of the Day soccer on SBS Television.

To me, it seems that SBS stands for 'South Melbourne Broadcasting Service' as the viewers see that side nearly every week.

I know Souths are the league leaders, which would mean that they would have a fair deal of coverage, but they have their matches shown in place of such battling clubs as Wollongong, Newcastle, Morwell and Brisbane.

The Breakers, who are now playing top soccer, play their home games on Fridays. Does this mean that they and Wollongong are disadvantaged by doing so?

Andy Paschalidis's loyalties are well documented (even though he drops Sydney Olympic when 'Hellas' are doing well).

A great game between Parramatta Eagles and the Breakers was missed in favour of a South Melbourne — Heidelberg 'Greek derby'.

This game had no bearing on the semi-finals race, unlike the Breakers v Eagles and Sydney v Melbourne CSC derby.

Come on SBS — show the games with the most bearing on the National League.

**Julian Farrell
Turramurra**

[Julian, you are barking up the wrong tree — the match schedule is actually chosen by the ASF. Unfortunately, because it is done well in advance sometimes the games lose the relevance they may have had.

Andy Paschalidis — I have it on good authority — has two footballing loves, Pontian Eagles and Glasgow Rangers! — Editor]

MUSCAT OFF

I totally agree with reader Barry Haines' comment in last week's Mailbag concerning Kevin Muscat. If he had been an English player he would have been barred from ever representing his country again for being sent off.

**Wallace Hitchcock
Camberwell (Vic)**

[The whole point is that, thankfully, Kevin isn't an English player (although he was born there of Maltese parents).

Muscat is a very forceful and aggressive player — and

MAILBAG

We welcome all letters from our readers. Please keep all correspondence to 250 words or less. All letters must include name and address and can be sent to: P.O. Box 406, Broadway, 2007 NSW.



Francis Awaritefe: all class

a very good one too. In my opinion he is one of the best three players in the team — Sean Cranney and Craig Moore are the other two for those who are interested.

But he does have a tendency to 'get stuck in', which he will have to curb if he wants to last 90 minutes in the World Youth Cup.

And anyway, what about Paul Gascoigne, are you saying that he is a perfect gentleman? — Editor]

your State League tables and results. — Editor]

NATIONAL LEAGUE

What is all the talk about bringing Perth into the National League?

Who is interested in what happens in Perth anyway?

Get rid of the lesser clubs and stick with Melbourne and Sydney — that's where the support is.

[I am arranging for the SAWA to send you your very own Emu — hope you both enjoy sticking your head in the sand. — Editor]

LETTER OF THE WEEK

For me Francis Awaritefe is the most exciting player in the National League.

He is fast, strong, has a good turn of pace and really does damage where it counts - in the back of the net.

Yet continually he is labelled in the press as 'gangly', 'awkward' or 'lacking real ball skill'.

Maybe I am not an expert but I think he is great, and, at the risk of sounding racist, he has 'Black Magic'.

**Stuart Osmond
Moorabbin (Vic)**

[Good on you Stuart — another member of the Awaritefe fan club. Enjoy the ball, but don't let Francis get a look at it, he might not pass it back. — Editor]

IVORY TOWERS

I totally disagree with last

week's editorial concerning drawn games.

FIFA are acting in the best interests of everyone concerned in experimenting with games to be played out to a full result.

The game needs an overhaul, the rules are a hundred years out of date.

**Ian Simpson
Goulburn (NSW)**

[You are entitled to your comment and opinion Ian (as long as you keep on buying our twice a week Soccer Weekly) but I wonder how many people who actually play the game would agree with you about the rule changes. — Editor]

STOP LIVING IN WONDERLAND

I read your mailbag letters and find a lot of readers are sick of this or sick of that.

Well Sir, I'm sick of our national coaches making excuses for poor results. After the recent Korean games Les Scheinflug said: "It continued our learning process." How long are we going to be students and not teachers? Eddie Thomson said after a 3-0 loss to Borussia Dortmund he was "happy with the performance." Now he wants to go to England to get a

hiding and a holiday as this is what most of the players treat it as.

As Rale Rasic pointed out with the recent tour of Posco Atoms from Korea, we are not good enough and will never be if we keep saying, "Yes, we lost 2-0 but it was a good performance by the lads." Rubbish. The ASF has spent \$5.5million on our national teams. Where are the results? Winning is the game but losing is our aim, should be the ASF's motto.

**J. Bull
Seven Hills, NSW**

PROMOTION

With five days to go before the start of Australia '91, the Australian media's coverage of the world's biggest sporting event of the year has been practically non-existent.

It is hard to believe that we about to host a top international event.

With Sydney bidding for the 2000 Olympics, I would have thought that every branch of the media would have mobilised to produce blanket coverage leading up to the opening match this Friday in Sydney.

However, Australia's media has again shown its bias against soccer — the world's most popular sport.

**Marie Donetti
Engadine, NSW**

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CRINO FURY OVER IMPORT FLOPS

PRESTON COACH HITS OUT AFTER HEIDLEBERG WIN

PRESTON coach Oscar Crino slammed his import players after this 2-1 defeat at the hands of Heidelberg United at the Olympic Village on Sunday evening.

In what was billed as the crucial relegation battle between the two Melbourne clubs, Preston came out all guns blazing and led early only to fall to a double strike from Angie Goutzioulis on either side of halftime.

Heidelberg's victory extended its lead on points over Preston to 11 with the win and Crino was left to muse over a shattering defeat.

The Preston coach

HEIDLEBERG.....	2
PRESTON.....	1

clearly laid the blame for the loss at the feet of his import players.

"Our overseas players are an insult to our club," Crino said after the game.

"We've got the young players and while I am coach we will continue to use those young players wherever possible."

Crino's tenure as coach may not extend beyond the end of the current campaign, particularly if Preston is relegated from the national competition.

For a time at the Olympic Village on Sunday relegation seemed the furthest thing from the minds of the Preston players as they dominated the first half hour of the game against lethargic Heidelberg.

Preston seemed set to cruise away, Shaun Parton hitting the crossbar with a header in the first 60 seconds and livewire Andrew Zinni giving the visitors a 10th minute lead.

Zinni, who might have

scored twice more in a sensational opening burst, put Preston in front after Goran Lozanovski lofted a free kick from wide right, Parton turned the ball inside and Zinni snaffled the chance from eight metres out.

Heidelberg goalkeeper Mike Chatzitrosos plucked out successive spectacular saves — the second a beauty to stop a Robert Stojevski volley — before Heidelberg clawed its way back into contention five minutes from the interval.

The equaliser came from the head of Goutzioulis as he rose to meet a high square cross from Phil Stubbins.

"We started off like we'd already won the game and I was eager to get stuck into them at halftime," said Heidelberg coach Garry McDowall.

"But once we levelled I told the players that they (Preston) would have to take the risks and we could punish them."

And punish the visitors Heidelberg did, missing a couple of early second half chances before grabbing the match winner in 62nd minute.

David Clarkson split the gap with a superb low projectory pass and Goutzioulis followed the ball into the box before slicing his shot inside the post to make it 2-1.

Rather than extend the homeside Preston finished its most crucial game of the season with a whimper rather than a bang and last week's two goal hero Michael Michalakopoulos might have done better with two late chances to put the result beyond doubt.

"We had four clear chances and dominated the first half", Crino said after the game.

"But the first goal demoralised us and we couldn't go on with it."

HEIDLEBERG: Chatzitrosos, Bratten, Bordignon, Georgiadis, Palatsides, Clarkson, McNicol, Stubbins,

Michalakopoulos, Goutzioulis, Dick.

PRESTON: Traianedes, Roodhouse, Spasevski, Trajevski (Najdovski 64), Parton, Lozanovski, Marinovic, Trajanovski, Stojcevski, Markovski, Zinni.

SCORERS: Goutzioulis 40m, 62m for Heidelberg. Zinni 10m for Preston.

YELLOW CARDS: Zinni 28m, Stojcevski 49m for Preston.

REFEREE: R Davies.

CROWD: 6,000.

POY: Clarkson 3, Palatsides 2, Goutzioulis 1.

BRANKO'S TAUNT FIRES UP SOUTHS

LEAGUE LEADERS INSPIRED BY RIVAL COACH

MELBOURNE CSC coach Branko Culina might be looking for a new house this week.

Culina guaranteed victory prior to the game and suggested he put his house on gaining a positive result, but despite a valiant effort from his Melbourne CSC team, it was South Melbourne who took the points and possibly the mortgage with their 2-1 win.

South Melbourne's victory was due to two of the most outstanding goals of the season, coming in a seven minute period just after Melbourne had taken the lead through Adrian Cervinski in the 27th minute.

Cervinski's angled header passed goalkeeper Anastasiadis culminated Melbourne's most dominant early in the match and was crafted by an excellent cross from the right by Josip Biskic.

South's first reply came right on the half hour with

dead-ball expert Peter Tsolakis striking home a direct free kick from almost 30 metres out.

South Melbourne's second in the 37th minute was even more impressive with Paul Trimboli swerving home a miraculous shot with the outside of his foot from well outside the box.

South's victory was a welcome tonic following their shock defeat by Heidelberg last weekend.

Socceroos Mehmet Durakovic and Paul Wade looked far more comfortable in this match following a week's rest from their European camp with national coach Eddie Thomson.

Wade, dominant in defence, was fired up to do well following the comments in the media during the week by Culina that Melbourne would win by two goals and that striker Ivan Kelic would outplay Wade.

"I just love that sort of comment," said Wade.

SOUTH MELBOURNE	2
MELB CSC.....	1

"It added that extra 20 percent of effort that I need to go out and get a result."

Prior to the match, each South Melbourne player was given a photocopied sheet highlighting Culina's pre-match comments as a motivational ploy.

One high ranking South Melbourne official suggested that Culina was either a "genius or idiot" to make those remarks.

President George Vasilopoulos even went as far as jokingly asking what the reserve price would be on Culina's house so he could attend the auction and make a

bid.

Culina had no regrets about his comments after the game.

"I knew it would motivate South Melbourne," he said. "But I also expected it to motivate my own players."

"Full credit to South Melbourne and especially Paul Wade, they are a champion team and Wade proved once again what a champion player he is."

South Melbourne picked up the tempo as the match wore on and they had a number of opportunities through long range shots by Con Boutsianis to extend their

lead in the second half.

Tsolakis, busy in midfield, missed the best chance just after the break when his open opportunity was deflected wide by goalkeeper Joe Rados.

Not to be put off making big statements, Culina remained adamant that his team will still make the finals.

"We'll make it, I have absolutely no doubt that," he said.

MELBOURNE CSC: RADOS, De Amicis, Horvat, Selemidis, Hannah, Vanis (Marth 60), Silic, Cervinski (Pondeljak 47), Coveny, Kelic, Biskic.

S O U T H M E L B O U R N E : Anastasiadis, Healy, Wright, Durakovic, Hasler, Wade, Tsolakis, Tasios (Michell 85), Trimboli, Boutsianis, Awaritefe.

GROUND: Somers St.

WEATHER: cool, overcast.

PITCH: good.

SCORERS: Tsolakis 30m, Trimboli 37m for South Melbourne. Cervinski 27m for Melbourne CSC.

YELLOW CARDS: De

Amicis 33m, Vanis 40m, Kelic 61m, Marth 76m for Melbourne CSC. Hasler 88m for South Melbourne.

REFEREE: R Lorenc.

CROWD: 6,000.

POY: Wade 3, Tsolakis 2, Selemidis 1.

DON'T FORGET ABSW IS NOW OUT ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY

MARCONI'S IN TOTAL CONTROL

WOLVES CRASH TO THEIR HEAVIEST DEFEAT AGAINST FAIRFIELDERS

MARCONI- Schwarzer, Paine (Van Egmond 68m), Bingley, Gray, Jolevski, Harper, Talay, Kulevski, Corica (Casserly 73m), Johnson, Taliadoros.

WOLLONGONG CITY- Hughes, Green (Troth 46m), Foreshaw, O'Shea, Bourke, Horsley, McFadden, Lloyd, Smith, White, Freestone (Bard 60m)

SCORERS: Taliadoros (28m), Corica (36m), Gray (57m)

YELLOW CARDS: Corica (22m), Horsley (31)
REFEREE: B. Power
CROWD: 2,984
P.O.Y. POINTS: 3-Gray, 2-Johnson, 1-Bourke

Marconi's high powered display of almost 'total football', reminiscent of the Dutch national side of the 1970s, gave them a 3-0 win over Wollongong City at Marconi Stadium on Saturday.

Spectacular goals from striker Kimon Taliadoros, midfielder Steve Corica and sweeper Ian Gray inflicted Wollongong's biggest defeat of the season.

The Wolves, playing without suspended captain and sweeper Charlie Yankos, looked lost, particularly in the second half when the home side increased the tempo.

MARCONI 3
WOLLONGONG 0

City badly missed the former Soccerroo's guidance and organisational skills as they struggled to hold a highly mobile Marconi.

Marconi's victory was based on its high powered style of defending, using the 'forward-pressing' tactic, and served early warning that they are hungry and set for the championship.

They attacked and defended as a tight unit with such incredible mobility that it choked Wollongong. Striker Glenn Johnson led

the way for Marconi, covering acres of space with a non-stop performance of attack and defence.

But Marconi were not always in full control.

In fact, in the first 20 minutes it was Wollongong who threatened to take the match and had Marconi on the ropes with sustained attacks.

Sadly, for Wolves coach David Ratcliffe, the chances created by lanky midfielder Richard Lloyd and youngster Matt Horsley were

squandered.

Had Wollongong nailed these two chances, the complexity of the match could have been very different.

In the 28th minute hard working Taliadoros scored a fabulous opener.

Midfielder Andy Harper fired a pass to last season's national league joint top scorer.

In a flash, Taliadoros veered inside and beat defender David Green before unleashing a rocket drive from 25 metres from an acute angle on the right which crashed into the right corner of the target.

Eight minutes later, Soccerroo Steve Corica

doubled the scoreline with an explosive raid following a pass from defender George Jolevski.

Wollongong's woes were compounded a minute from the break when Green collided with Marconi's 16-year-old midfielder Ufuk Talay near the goalmouth.

Green was rushed to hospital suffering from concussion and a suspected broken collar bone.

Six minutes after the break, Horsley bombed an absolute sitter from well inside the box with only Marconi's giant keeper Mark Schwarzer to beat.

Arguably, the national league's most valuable player Ian Gray cemented

Marconi's win when he made it 3-0 in the 57th minute.

With ice-cool composure, the authoritative Marconi sweeper bent his drive from almost 20 metres that flashed just inside the right post.

Marconi coach Frank Arok said afterwards: "We were very mobile and covered every position as we aimed to match them in chasing and marking."

"If you want to succeed, you must score two at home and build from there," he added.

Meanwhile, Ratcliffe said: "They took all their chances and we didn't. This was the first time we have lost by three all season."

JERMAN SHINES FOR SYDNEY CSC

Sydney CSC teenager Mario Jerman sparked a 3-1 win over Brisbane United on Friday which ended the visitors' horror run in the national league.

Jerman, 18, playing his second full game at this level, sent a superb ball which split Brisbane's defence on the hour and allowed substitute Joe Caleta to ram the ball home for CSC's vital second goal.

Eight minutes later, Jerman made certain of Sydney's win when he turned near the edge of the box and slid the ball past keeper Farrow's dive.

Suffering from a lengthy injury list and having lost the past four matches, Sydney had slipped out of the top six and was in eighth position going into the game at Perry Park.

They started smartly driving the passes down the left flank and

BRISBANE..... 3
SYDNEY CSC... 1

using Robbie Stanton to send curling crosses behind United's defence.

Forwards Jerman and Tony Krslovic had three headers on target before CSC opened the scoring with a header from Tom Milicevic in the 15th minute.

United equalised with a disputed 30th minute own goal awarded against defender Tony Popovic after Frank Pimblett squeezed a shot at goal.

Popovic attempted to clear under pressure from Chris Slater and referee Peter Hulme ruled the ball had crossed the line.

Both teams started the second term slowly.

Sydney created the better opportunities and despite Jerman's double miss he said he was confident the breakthrough would come.

"After I missed those chances, I didn't put my head down because I was certain I would get a goal the way we were playing," said Jerman.

"I was happy with the way things went after that because I set up one and scored the other."

Jerman scored on his full debut against Melbourne CSC last week when Krslovic was out injured.

CSC coach Manfred Schaefer used the pair in tandem and it was Sydney's most positive performance this month.

GERMAN DISCIPLINE

German World Youth Cup coach Rainer Bonhoff ordered a training session soon after his squad arrived here following a 28 hour flight from Frankfurt on Saturday.

"We are here to play football and are in a very strong pool," Bonhoff said.

Germany meets current world youth titleholder Portugal in the opening match of the Brisbane group of the championship on Saturday night at Lang Park.

"Portugal have won the past two world youth cups and will be a very hard team to beat so we must be at our best," Bonhoff said.

Playing as West Germany in 1981 the German team won the championship in Australia and is one of the favourites this year.

The other teams in the Brisbane group are Uruguay and Ghana.

Australia, based in Sydney in the first stage, reached the semi-finals of the last championship in Portugal in 1991.

URUGUAY VOW TO BEHAVE

"We play a very fast game. There won't be any problems with this team."

South American Giants Uruguay has vowed not to repeat its undisciplined on-field display which cost it dearly during the 1991 World Youth Championships.

Uruguay made headlines in 1991 as the bad boys of the youth championships, committing a number of fouls.

"This is a very disciplined team," declares Uruguayan coach Angel Castlenobel.

"We play a very fast game. There

won't be any problems with this team."

Castlenobel said Uruguay had drawn the toughest group coming up against Germany, Africa and defending youth champion, Portugal.

Uruguay shared top spot in its preliminary youth qualifying group, finishing second overall in the South American championship by one goal to the brilliant Brazilians.

Castlenobel said Uruguay had a quick team, led by 19 year-old first division strikers Fabian O'Neil and

Fernando Correa and goalkeeper Sergio Martinez.

Correa was the leading goal scorer in the South American championships, finding the net five times, while Martinez was voted Uruguay's best player during its qualifying tournament.

Castlenobel said Brisbane's hot weather would not be a problem although his layers would have to quickly adjust to the humidity.

"It is 28 and 29 degrees at home

now but the humidity is not as bad" he said.

Uruguay opens its campaign on Saturday against the powerful Germans in the second game of a Lang Park double header in Brisbane.

They played their first game in Australia against Brisbane first division club Taringa Rovers in a pre-arranged trial last Sunday.

Uruguay requested the trial with Taringa which will host the South Americans during the championships.

MENDEZ STUNNER NAILS FALCONS

Unconvincing Eagles Survive Second Half Pounding

Parramatta Eagles confirmed their bid for a finals' spot with a big, if unconvincing, 3-1 win over Morwell Falcons at Melita Stadium on Sunday evening.

One of the Eagles' players who has struggled in previous weeks to find fitness is David Lowe but against Morwell he was back to something like his old best, bagging a double which was added to by

Gabriel Mendez late on in the game with a free kick.

The scoreline didn't really reflect the contribution of Morwell to the game but finally nailed down the plucky Victorian side which really didn't know it was supposed to be beaten.

After only 11 minutes Lowe opened the scoring when he headed home a cross after neat build-up work involving both Aytec

PARRAMATTA	3
MORWELL	1

Genc and Marshall Soper. Slashing Sach Becvinovski finally got some reward for the Falcons' determination when he headed home a Paul Donnelly cross after 32 minutes to put his side on level terms and back into the reckoning.

But just four minutes later that man Lowe popped up again to put the high flying Eagles back into the lead.

Reda made his break into the Falcons' area, passed on to the brilliant Genc who knocked such a neat ball off for Lowe to bang home.

The second half gave Morwell plenty of chances to get back on terms again as Parramatta faded out of

the picture. This would have given coach Rale Rasic grave cause for concern and something he will work on during the break for the World Youth Cup.

To add to Morwell's misery both Becvinovski and sub Anthony Cassar had goals chalked off as the visitors failed to take advantage of the Eagle's second half malaise.

But as the game drew to

a close Mendez finished off the Falcons with a free kick which typified much of the game - audacious and with more than a share of luck.

Mendez blasted the ball home with an acute angle drive from outside of the penalty area past a stunned and flat-footed two man Morwell wall, past keeper Mautone and into the net.

3-1, and that, as they say, was that.

SORRES GETS SHIRTY AS OLYMPIC DOWN SHARKS

DEFENDER RIPS OFF SHIRT IN JUBILANCE AFTER VICTORY CLINCHER

Sydney Olympic recorded only their eighth victory of the season when they laboured to a 2-0 win over West Adelaide at St George Stadium last night.

Substitute defender George Sorras put the issue beyond doubt when he scored a spectacular goal with three minutes to go.

Sorras, who replaced injured defender David Barrett 14 minutes earlier, raced on to a perfect Robbie Ironside pass.

He then struck a fierce shot from the corner of the penalty area which flew in at the far post.

Sorras celebrated his goal by immediately

ripping off his shirt and running the length of the touchline.

Olympic's top scorer David Seal earlier missed a simple chance after he stole the ball from Adelaide defender Robbie Slager.

But Seal's shot from 12 metres out sailed harmlessly over the bar.

Adelaide lost their fluency, direction and confidence when influential midfielder Hugo Gimenez was substituted after picking up an injury.

Sydney Olympic broke the deadlock in the 58th minute following a soaring kick by goalkeeper Clint Gosling that sailed into Adelaide's penalty area.

SLAGER and striker Zlatko Arambasic fought for the ball before Arambasic managed to get	and seemed content to allow Olympic to come at them with monotonous regularity, hoping to catch
---	---

SYDNEY CSC	2
WEST ADELAIDE	0

a left foot to the ball to score from 12 metres out just inside the right post.

The first session ended scoreless with some scrappy football from both sides.

Surprisingly the West Adelaide outfit sat back

post.

Adelaide's attacking left back Stan Lazaridis pushed up to cross to midfielder Gus Cerro whose overhead kick flew wide of the target.

One minute later Olympic's sweeper Spyridakos rifled a speculative drive from 25 metres which was blocked by McPherson down low to his left.

Midfield distributor Gimenez left the field badly shaken after being tackled by Olympic's giant Kiwi midfielder Robbie Ironside. Mark Brazzale came on for the injured Gimenez.

In the last 90 seconds of the first session West

Adelaide stung back with two opportunities.

A poor clearance by Bernal saw striker Greg Brown set up Ray Blair for a chance. But a desperate lunging tackle by defender Spyridakos neutralised the danger.

And seconds later, the League's top goalscorer Jose Iriarte threatened from the right side and 12 metres out when he fired a left footed drive well on target only to be denied by Olympic goalkeeper Gosling.

West Adelaide coach Raul Blance said afterwards: "We let this game slip away from us. "We certainly did enough to come away with

something," he added.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling, Barratt (Sorras 73m), Bernal, Spyridakos, Augerinos, Lee, Phillips, Ironside, Milosevic, Seal, Arambasic.

WEST ADELAIDE: McPherson, Pullen, Slager, Mills, Hooker, Lazaridis, Cerro (Ricoy 70), Blair, Gimenez (Brazzale 39), Iriarte, Brown.

SCORERS: Arambasic (58m), Sorras (87m)

YELLOW CARDS: Mills (10m).

REFEREE: J Fraser.

CROWD: 2642.

POY: 3- Phillips, 2- Hooker, 1- Iriarte

AUSSIE EXILES

— AN UPDATE —



Alistair Edwards

BY STEPHEN COPPING

"How can you stop any player from achieving his dream and playing abroad—whether it's in Malaysia or England—they will be full time professionals and that means everything to a footballer"

Marconi-Fairfield coach Frank Arok

A total of 59 Australian players are now plying their trade overseas, with England still the most popular destination for globe trotting Aussies.

Sixteen players from Australia are in England, including Aston Villa No.1 goalkeeper Mark Bosnich.

Holland has one Australian representative in Socceroo Jason van Blerk who plays for Go Ahead Eagles.

Belgium has nine Australian players including Socceroo Graham Arnold who plays for Liege.

In Germany, Ned Zelic, is having a sensational season with Borussia Dortmund and was recently named as man of the match in his club's 4-0 thrashing of Inter Milan.

In France, Frank Farina is back amongst the goals with Strasbourg after struggling with injury at the beginning of the season.

However, the debate is still raging whether the exodus of Australian players abroad is a good thing for the game here.

Opinions are divided. Most



Graham Arnold

players biggest ambition is to be full time, and a move abroad is the only way they can achieve that objective.

Coaches realise that they can't keep hold of their best players by paying them inadequate wages and training them only three or four times a week.

Those against the player drain are the supporters who feel the standard of the National League, not to

mention the entertainment level, is getting lower each year.

The objective follower of the game sees the value of players going abroad. Not only for the players, who quite rightly wish to play abroad to improve their game and reap the riches, but also realise that the youngsters in the National League are getting their chance a lot



Aurelio Vidmar



John Filan

earlier than they would normally expect.

Despite the controversy, Australian players abroad are increasing every year.

If any ABSW reader knows of players we have missed out we would appreciate if you could let us know.

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John Crawley (Colo Colo)

Shaun Murphy (Notts County)
Bob Callin (Notts County)
Andy Petterson (Luton Town)
Mark Bosnich (Aston Villa)
Jason Knight (West Ham)
Tony Dorigo (Leeds United)

Steve Refenes (Olympiakos)
Lou Hrstodoulou
(Panathinaikos)
John Anastasiadis (Paok)
Akis Alagiozidis (Panserraikos)

SCOTLAND



Frank Farina

Willy Hastie (Dundee)

ITALY

Christian Vieri
Edward Scalzi (Siena)
Dominic Usalj (Brindisi)
Steve Orsati (Pescara)

BELGIUM

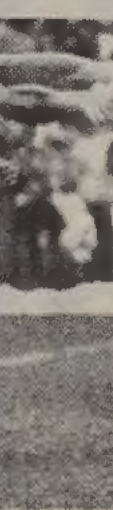
Paul Okon (Club Brugge)
Aurelio Vidmar (Waregem)
Graham Arnold (Liege)
Eddie Krmcevic (Liege)
George Kulscar (Antwerp)
John Aloisi (Standard Liege)
Lorenz Kindtner (Club Brugge)
Milan Blagojevic (Ekeren)
Dominic Longo (Club Brugge)

CROATIA

Robert Markovac (Hajduk Split)

ENGLAND

David Oldfield (Leicester City)
David Mitchell (Swindon)
Scott Ollerenshaw (Walsall)
Jason Kearton (Everton)
Frank Talia (Blackburn Rovers)



Milan Blagojevic

Vlado Bozinovski (Ipswich)
Pat Bradley (Bury)
Ernie Tapai (Stoke City)
John Filan (Southampton)
Hamilton Thorpe (Rochdale)

GERMANY

Roman Nikolic (dynamo Dresden)
Ned Zelic (Borussia Dortmund)

FRANCE

Frank Farina (Strasbourg)
Robbie Slater (Lens)

GREECE

Chris Kalantzis (Olympiakos)
Jim Patikas (Athinaios)

HONG KONG

Peter Murray
Marko Perinovic
Robby Perinovic
Tristan Morgan
George Hanlotis

MALAYSIA

Alistair Edwards
Abbas Saad
Craig Foster
Ross Green
John Hunter
Jeff Curran
Dave Evans
Mike Roki

HOLLAND

Jason van Blerk



Bobby Catlin of Notts County

A look back at the 1991-1992 NSL Cup results



Paul Foster (Parramatta)



Gerry Gomez (Parramatta)



John Gibson (Sydney CSC)



Ante Moric

Semi-Final Preview

Parramatta Eagles and Sydney CSC both fluked their way into the NSL Cup semi finals with dramatic victories over Brisbane United and Marconi-Fairfield respectively.

Sydney CSC were 4-0 down on aggregate to Marconi before staging one of the most amazing fightbacks in Australian soccer history.

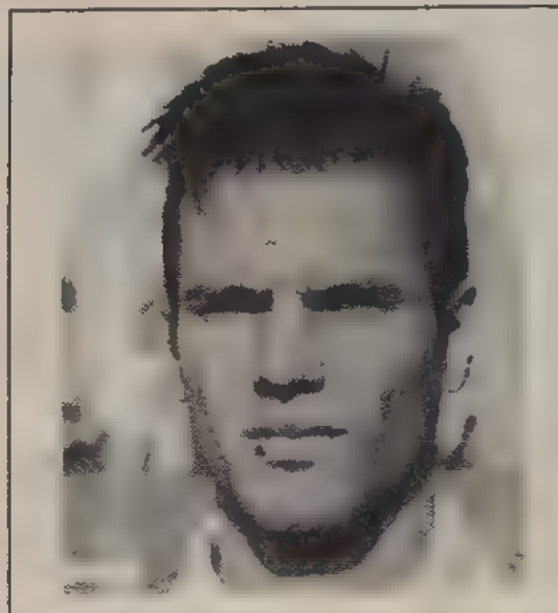
Sydney CSC clawed their way back, scoring four goals which silenced the Bossley Park faithful. Sydney CSC went through to the NSL Cup Semi Final on goal aggregate.

Parramatta Eagles were saved in the last minute with a Marshall Soper equaliser, which stunned the Brisbane travelling fans, many of whom had started boarding their buses back to Brisbane, in the belief that their side had reached the Semi Finals. Parramatta Eagles went through on goal aggregate.

For coach Manfred Schaefer and Sydney CSC, this could be the only opportunity to get some silverware this season at Edensor Park. Their form in the CCSL has seen them fall out of contention for the Top Six playoffs, and a place in the NSL Cup final would make the last few weeks seem all worthwhile.

Parramatta Eagles are still in the Top Six. They have a combination of experienced and young players

Both teams should provide an entertaining game, with the Eagles favourites to reach their first NSL Cup final



Tony Krslovic (Sydney CSC)

ROUND 1		ROUND 2	
Adelaide City	1	Adelaide City	Bye
West Adelaide	0	Melbourne CSC	3
Melbourne Croatia	3	Preston	1
Heidelberg United	1	Wollongong	0
South Melbourne	2	Brisbane United	1
Preston	4	Sydney CSC	0
Wollongong City	1	Marconi-Fairfield	2
Sydney Olympic	0	SEMI FINALS	
Brisbane United	2	Adelaide City	1
Apia Leichhardt	1	Melbourne CSC	0
Parramatta Eagles	1	Marconi-Fairfield	4
Sydney CSC	2	Brisbane United	1
Newcastle BHP	0	FINAL	
Marconi-Fairfield	3	Adelaide City	2
		Marconi-Fairfield	1

LAST YEAR'S FINAL PLAYERS

ADELAIDE CITY MARCONI

1 R.Zabica	1 M.Schwarzer
2 P.Shillabeer	2 G.Egmond
3 T.Vidmar	3 P.de Marigny
4 M.Ivanovic	4 M.Jones
5 A.Tobin	5 S.Georgakis
6 C.Talladira	6 I.Gray
7 E.Tapai	7 T.McCulloch
8 C.Veart	8 A.Harper
9 J.Mullen	9 D.Seal
10 S.Maxwell	10 G.Johnson
11 R.Aloisi	11 D.Lowe
12 J.Barbaro	12 J.Markovski
13 M.Brooks	13 S.Calderan

LIKELY LINE UPS

SYDNEY CSC

- 1 Kalac
- 2 Kupresak
- 3 Stanton
- 4 Popovic
- 5 Rumora
- 6 Moric
- 7 Petkovic
- 8 Milicevic
- 9 Krslovic
- 10 Gibson
- 11 Milicic
- 12 Babic
- 13 Caleta

PARRAMATTA

- 1 P.Gunning
- 2 Souris
- 3 O'Donell
- 4 Gomez
- 5 Wheatley
- 6 Ciantar
- 7 Lowe
- 8 Genc
- 9 Soper
- 10 Katholos
- 11 G.Gunning
- 12 P.Foster
- 13 Reda

THE YOU



FRANK JURIC



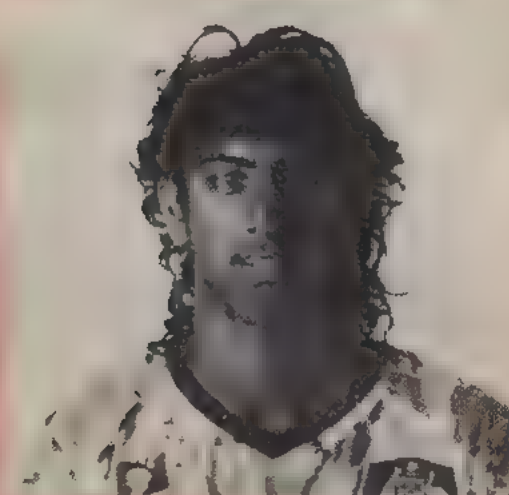
ANTE JURIC



SEAN CRANNEY



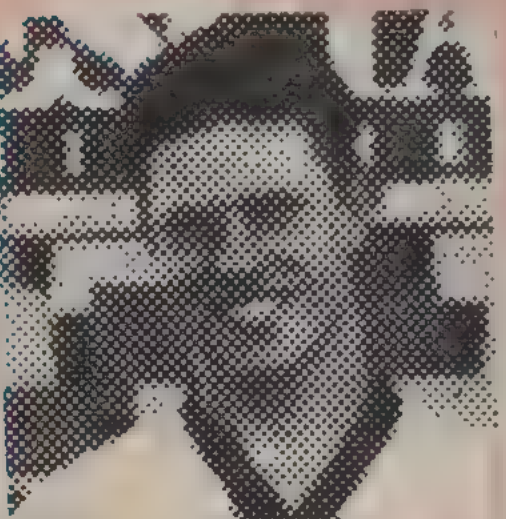
CRAIG MOORE



MARC WINGELL



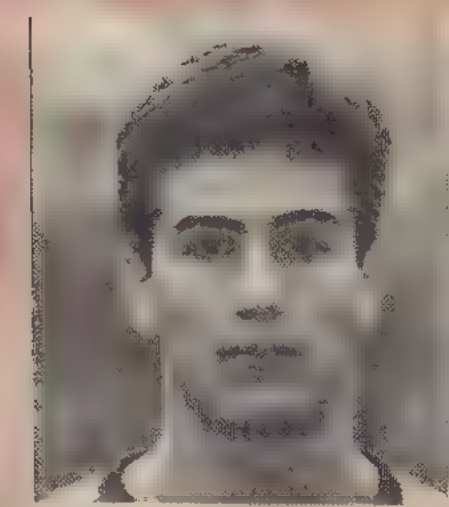
ANTHONY CARBONI



AARON HOLST

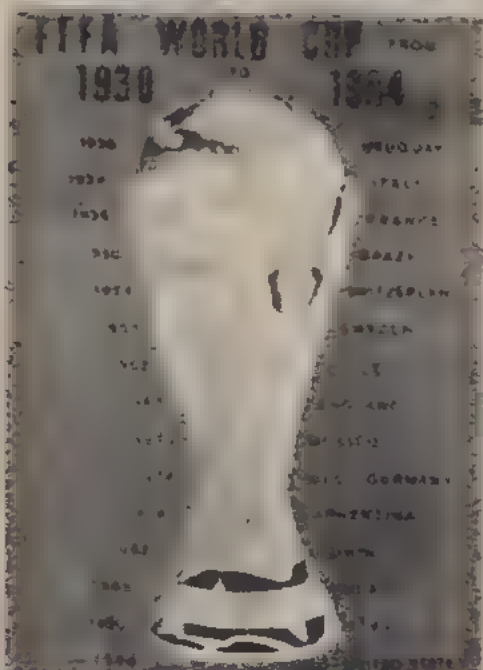


KEVIN MUSCAT



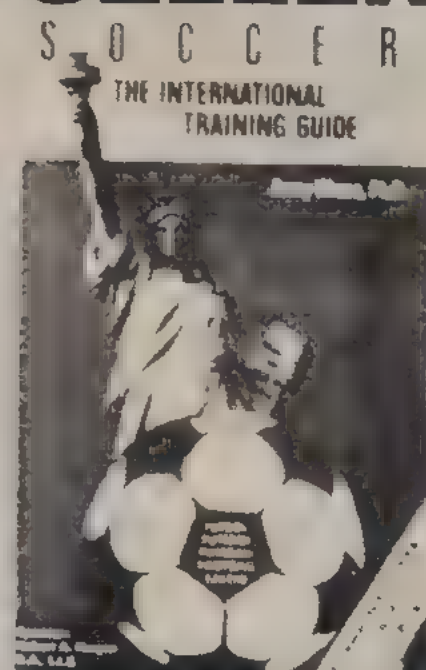
PAUL AGOSTINI

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ING GUNS

BY JEFF TURNBULL

THE current Young Socceroos are more battled-hardened than their predecessors who reached the semi-final of the World Youth Championships in Portugal two years ago, according to captain Kevin Muscat.

The squad looks forward to the World Youth Championships after a six match tour of the Middle East and Hong where they won three and lost three games.

Muscat, who played in the last World Youth Cup, said the current side had the advantage of more international experience when it lines up against Colombia in the opening match of the 1993 championships in Sydney on Friday.

"One of the things this team has over the '91 team is experience. We have yet to play in the World Cup so you can make your comparisons after the tournament," Muscat said.

"We've played in Europe, South America — played Brazil six times — and now we've had a good look at the Middle East teams," Muscat said.

"It was a great tour for us — every day of the week we've been together."

Muscat realises the importance of winning the first game and said home ground advantage should play a big part.

He said that instead of 115,000 people screaming against them, as was the case in the 1991 World Cup semi-final against Portugal, people will be cheering for them.

"The pressure will be on us and the boys won't want to let people down," Muscat said.

"Colombia will be tough but we want to get a good result first up."

The squad is now in camp at Parklea preparing for the opening showdown.



ANTE MILICIC



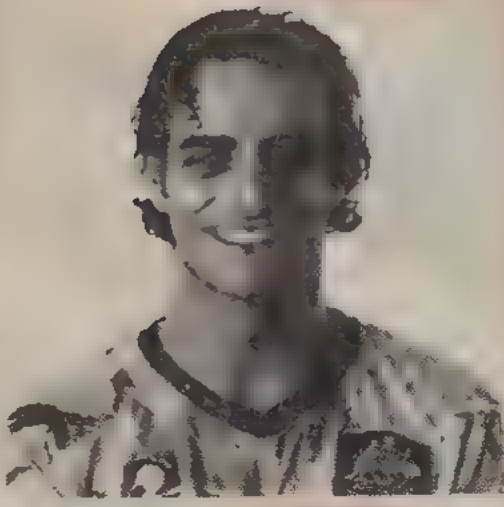
ANTE MORIC



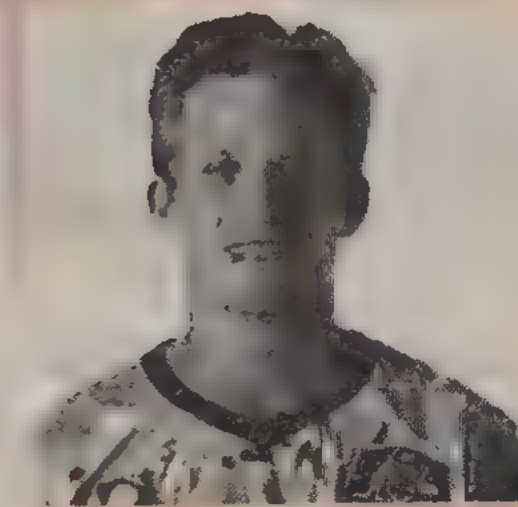
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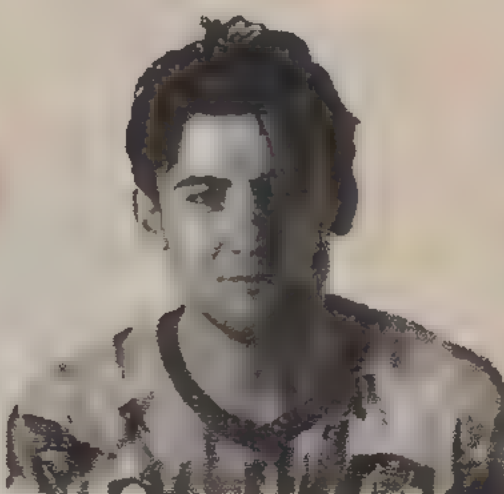
FABIO MACOLINO



NICK RADECKI



JIM TSEKINIS



VAS TRPCEVSKI



VINCE MATASSA

SPURS PATCH UP FEUD WITH ENGLISH FA

BARMBY IS ON HIS WAY

The brilliant young Tottenham striker Nick Barmby has been cleared to fly to Australia with the rest of the England squad for the World Youth Championship.

Tottenham Hotspur backed down from its row with the Football Association over Barmby's selection for the tournament, citing the death of former England captain Bobby Moore as a reason.

Spurs and chief executive Terry Venables had wanted their teenage

striker to play in Tottenham's FA Cup quarter-final against Manchester City next Sunday.

Tottenham had offered to fly the player to Australia after the tie, but the FA insisted Barmby had to join the rest of the 18-strong squad when it left England yesterday for the March 5-20 tournament.

Although Venables had not directly threatened to withdraw Barmby, it is believed the club had taken legal advice on the penalties it would have

faced if it had decided not to release him.

But last week the controversy came to an end when Venables announced simply: "The boy goes to Australia."

This is splendid news for Australian fans as they will be able to watch in the flesh one of England's talents.

His inclusion immensely strengthens the English team, which now must rate amongst the favourites.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

SPORTS COMMENTATORS WRESTLE WITH ANOTHER PROBLEM NAME

By BRUCE WALKLEY

Sports commentators have had some tongue-twisters to test their tempers and tumble them into tantrums over the years.

Perhaps the toughest of them all was Jean-Louis Ravelomanantsoa, the flying Malagasian who became the first man to win the Stawell Gift from the scratch mark back in 1975.

Try getting that one out

four or five times in the 12 seconds it took him to run the 120 metres!

Not surprisingly, the man on the mike at Central Park opted for "Ravioli".

The fellows calling the dogs in Brisbane in the mid-1980s had a hard time of it, too, when faced with a dishlicker named Hoofarted.

They must have been awfully tempted to say "I dunno" after the ritual "and the last one home is ..." but

instead invented a new pronunciation that went something like Hooferted.

Current callers aren't spared, either. They've got Jimi Whistlebritches going around at the trots in South Australia, and there's a galloper entered for Wagga Wagga on Friday called Hoofnboof.

Some are a bit more subtle, such as when Sydney trainer Dr Geoff Chapman, given a flying start by his anatomy studies, came up

with a filly called Merkin, a medieval term for female pubic hair.

She won the prestigious Silver Slipper Stakes before the Australian Jockey Club twiggged and insisted on a name change.

Soccer has had its fair share, with handles like Doug Utjesenovic and Ivo Prskalo on the Australian scene (Utjesenovic was in semi-retirement by the time they got his name right).

Then there was Edson Arantes do Nascimento, from Brazil. He was quickly, and mercifully as it turned out considering the number of times he played and scored, shortened to Pele.

Now another young Brazilian soccer star has arrived on the scene, jetting into Australia for the World Youth Championship.

The 18-year-old from the SC Internacional club is set to cause consternation in the broadcasting boxes whenever he gets the ball, scores, is substituted, cautioned or sent off.

Newspaper headline writers could be in strife, too.

If he scores a hat-trick even the hardest tabloid sub-editor will pause for second thoughts before writing the headline in 96-point type.

Brazil has a player called Argelico Fucks in its squad. Number 14, he is.

Fortunately, the Brazilians have this convenient habit of giving their players playing nicknames.

Whatever they call young Argel no doubt will be seized upon with great alacrity by the 150-odd broadcasters descending on Australia from all over the world to cover the big event.

VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

CROYDON 0 KNOX 0

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

NEW look Croydon City played out a dreary scoreless draw against Knox City at the Dorset Gardens Recreation Centre on Friday night.

Knox, who escaped the relegation drop last season thanks to Morwell's elevation to the CCSL, had the better attacking ideas, especially in the final ten minutes when they threw everything at Croydon.

The 6.15 kick-off was not a good idea as the last 15 minutes was played in virtual darkness, however referee John Rutter allowed the fixture to continue.

Croydon was best served by two players they gained on free transfers, Carl Gilder (striker) from Sunshine and Manny

Gotis (left back) from Morwell.

One surprise in the Eagles line up was that of Graham French (striker), and another veteran Ian Dobson (sweeper) also lined up, funnily enough both are ex-coaches of Croydon.

If this is the best standard both these sides can offer, it is clear that they will struggle to compete with the likes of Brunswick Juventus, Fawkner and Co.

Neither side could give the game a much needed goal although Knox had the best chance when Chris Hoodless crossed from the left to Peter Lutgens who scooped it over the bar.

This Saturday, Knox take on fellow slow starters Fawkner at Egan Lee Reserve while Croydon travel to Green Gully.

CROYDON: Turudia, Field, Gotis, McBride, Cubit, Woodall, O'Dell, Malcolm (Ireland), Gilder, Klepac, Kaukianinen.

KNOX: Serailis, Burton, Dobson, Evans, Chalmers, Bakker, Jones, Hoodless, French (Morgan), Wild, Lutgens (House).

REFEREE: John Rutter.

POY: Gilder 3, Wild 2, Gotis 1.

THOMASTOWN 1 SUNSHINE GC 1

BY PETER KOTSIRIS

ZORAN NIKITOVIC returned to top flight soccer on Wednesday night to help his new club, Sunshine George Cross to a 1-1 draw against Thomastown in the opening night's encounter of the new Premier League season.

Nikitovic formerly of NSL club Footscray JUST, showed he hasn't missed a beat in his three absences from the game and was easily his side's best, producing a string of fine saves to constantly deny the opposing forwards.

At the other end, Pat Marrama made his debut for the Devils but didn't have as much to do, as an impotent Georgie forward line struggled to mount a constructive attack.

Marrama, who signed on loan from Brunswick Juventus after the controversial sale of Robert Brian from Thomastown to Juve via Bullen, incurred the wrath of referee Nestor Zachariadis when he came onto the ground not wearing his shin pads.

The opening half hour was drab and boring, and as so often happens a goal came out of the blue to suggest we were going to see a better second half.

Moments before halftime, Sunshine youngster, Agim Sherifovski made a jiggling run to the byline, to fire in a cross come shot that unbelievably squeezed through Marrama's legs to give Georgie a 1-0 halftime lead.

The second half was only nine minutes old when Thomastown conjured up a fine equaliser through Gary McMullen.

Steve Faquharson slipped a through ball to McMullen who turned on a five cent piece to send a superb curling shot into the top corner giving Nikitovic no chance.

The goal seemed to inspire the red and blacks but by the same token, so was Nikitovic who denied a Nick Ousalkas header with a super reflex save and then moments later, a McMullen overhead shot, which Nikitovic parried onto the bar and away.

THOMASTOWN: Marrama, Di Propertis, Constantinou, Mihailidis, Karic, Di Martino, Ousalkas (Brown), Bichler, Harrison, Faquharson, McMullen.

SUNSHINE GC: Nikitovic, Bot, Melrose, Markovski, Cocker, Smith, Farrugia (Zacharias), Dougherty, Sherifovski, Pappas, Stefanovski.

SCORERS: Sherifovski 43m, McMullen 54m.

REFEREE: N Zachariadis.

POY: Nikitovic 3, McMullen 2, Cocker 1.

FAWKNER 0 NORTH GEELONG 2

BY ROY HAY

PREMIER League champion North Geelong got off to a flying start in defence of its title by downing Fawkner 2-0 in the second game of the doubleheader at Smith Reserve on Wednesday night.

New Fawkner goalkeeper, Eric Janssen had a nightmare debut when he dropped an inswinging Glen Stefanac corner after only three minutes.

David Cervinski threw himself at the loose ball and claimed the final touch before the ball crossed the line, however referee John Santa-Isabel was adamant that it was an own goal.

Fielding a team with an average age of under twenty-one, North survived an early flurry by the Azzuri, in which Sebastien Emmanuele and Carlos Retre were prominent.

Chris Emsovski set off on a run in the 32nd minute, taking the Fawkner defence wide, then cut the ball into the path of John Didulica, who went right and then straightened up before shooting past Janssen from 10 metres.

The Fawks should have had a goal nine minutes earlier, but after driving his first shot against keeper Marijan Vunderl, Emmanuele sent the rebound over the bar.

Fawkner began to take control and Ken Murphy brought on Brian Bothwell for his debut in place of the ineffective Tortevski.

Bothwell had the ball in the net after 68 minutes, but the "goal" was disallowed for offside.

In the last few minutes, North raised the second half siege and Joe Markovac hit the bar after a good build up through Glen Stefanac and Ivan Skoko.

Ken Murphy was disappointed about the outcome and the disallowed goal in particular, while Tony Vrzina had a very satisfied smile, but was not getting carried away by one victory.

FAWKNER: Janssen, Gabrielson, Anezakis, Pender, Gouliis, Crivari, Gojevic (Vlatkovic), Karkaletsis, Tortevski (Bothwell), Retre, Emmanuele.

NORTH GEELONG: Vunderl, Trupkovic (Bosic), Cosic, Cervinski, Emsovski, Jerbic, Stefanac, Momirovski, Didulica, Skoko (Krasic), Markovac.

SCORERS: Janssen 3m (o.g), Didulica 32m.

REFEREE: J Santa-Isabel.

POY: Momirovski 3, Cervinski 2, Emmanuele 1.

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VICTORIA WITH GREG BLAKE



PUMA BOOST OF \$100,000

BY GREG BLAKE

Puma Australia has become the major sponsor of the Victorian Institute of Sport soccer squad.

The Puma company will sponsor the VIS soccer and netball teams to the tune of \$100,000 over the next three years with an option for a further three year extension.

Two of the higher profile sports at the VIS, netball and soccer are the first two programs at the institute to attract substantial corporate support.

The soccer squad, coached by former Preston and Sunshine George Cross boss Ernie Merrick, has made every post a winner since soccer made the up-

grade from one year team sport to major status last year.

The VIS squad has been top or near top of the National Youth League Southern Division during the current season, its first in that competition.

Puma Australia managing director and former Australian Olympian Herb Elliot paid tribute to both sports for their efforts at the VIS.

"We realise that both netball and soccer are strong sports numerically and the VIS has now reached a level where we want to be involved", said Elliot.

"We are very confident that the partnership will be productive and successful".

BY GREG BLAKE

Far from back-slapping and high-fiving their way around Olympic Village after a couple of super wins - albeit victories which seem certain to ensure safety from relegation worries - the current crop of players at Heidelberg United would be better served by giving themselves a decent hard kick.

They deserve it, because by walloping Sydney CSC and ending the seven year South Melbourne jinx in successive weeks Heidelberg United can clearly look back on a season wasted.

Departed Gary Cole would probably like to bruise a shin or two as well; this was the side he put together performing as he had so desperately wanted it to from day one of the campaign.

Until a week or two back the Bergers were deemed

simply not good enough.

The two impressive wins were not flukes and now we know - and hopefully the players know too - that they were good enough.

Fired-up Heidelberg belted both clubs and now the players from the Village can sit back and consider the wasted potential.

They can watch the finals when they might have been winning them.

The season is lost and the players, if they care, should be hurting.

According to caretaker boss Garry McDowall, the man in charge for the last

time against the Blues, Heidelberg players had fire in their eyes before the South Melbourne game.

"If you play with a passion you're always a chance", he said after the drought-breaker.

"I thought 15 minutes before that game that we'd get a result.

"But that has to happen every week.

"It's great when everyone fires up but it has to happen every week if you're going to be a successful side.

"When you're playing in front of 15,000 people they

(the players) look after themselves and they don't need me or anybody else to get them up.

"It's when you get the lesser games that there is a problem.

"They should be doing it themselves.

"If you're a championship side you beat the bad teams".

McDowall, who says he believes Heidelberg is still "two or three" quality players" away from being a force, is well aware that 1992/93 is a season lost for the Bergers.

There is no other way of

justifying the perplexing hot-and-cold form of a team which can go to Middle Park and win well and still afford to leave out the likes of Derek Hunter, George Slifkas and Danny Gjnidic from its first eleven.

"You look at the South Melbourne game and we were with them", says McDowall.

"We won it on merit.

"I'd love it to continue and the stuff's there to continue".

At this point it is up to the players.

Perhaps they should look to the example of McDowall, who has carried out his job as temporary senior coach with dignity and aplomb - and some considerable success - despite knowing for some time that the job was never to be his.

As he might say, he got on with the business, without complaint and in a thoroughly professional manner while waiting for Dragan Sekularac.

Dick back on the ball



Heidelberg United's return to form has coincided with Scottish import Ally Dick returning to the side with some truly inspiring performances.

The former Tottenham, Brighton and Ajax midfielder star, has spent most of the season on the sidelines with the Bergers due to injury.

However, two wins in a row and a man of the match performance by Dick in Round 21 against Sydney CSC, has seen the brilliant left sided player starting to fulfil his early season promise.

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SPORTSCENE

VICTORIAN PREVIEW

THOMASTOWN

Albion's landslide come-from-behind effort overshadowed the efforts of Len McKendry's Thomastown when the curtains were drawn on the 1992 season.

Most people have forgotten that the Devils, from the half way mark of the campaign, earned more match points than any of the five clubs in the finals.

Slowly and patiently McKendry pushed the also-rans up the ladder and 1993 should see Thomastown consolidate by securing a finals berth.

Almost invariably, McKendry coached teams win more than they lose, particularly if the former South Melbourne, Heidelberg and Juventus coach can get the blend of players to fit into the near legendary 'McKendry style'.

"Yes, I'm happy with the players I've got", says McKendry.

"Hopefully we can carry on from last year.

"We're very strong at the back and in midfield and we've got high hopes with our new players up

front".

Gary McMullen and Kevin Harrison, both ex Morwell, are the men expected to score the goals for Thomastown in 1993.

They join just a handful of new talent at Partridge Reserve, with five newcomers replacing five who have moved on over summer.

"I think we've balanced the books with the changes", McKendry explained.

1993 COACH - Len McKendry

1992 POSITION - 9th

PLAYERS RETAINED - Corallo, Farquarson, De Propertis, Luna, Tsangas, Di Martino, Ragusa, Bichler, Constantinou, Karic, Mihailidis

OFF - Brian (Juventus), Giaccherini (Bulleen), Hennessey (Croydon), McAleer (Preston)

NEW - Harrison (Morwell), McMullen (Morwell), Marama (Juventus), Ousalkis (Oakleigh), Brown (Ringwood)

DOUBTFUL - Cristaldo (overseas)

WAY TOO HOT FOR FAUSTO DE AMICIS

BY CON STAVROS

MELBOURNE CSC fans had better start taking a keener interest in the weather forecast for the weekends from now on.

Somers Street supporters, eager to see their team sneak into the finals, know much of their hopes rest on sensational rookie, Fausto De Amicis, and the 24-year-old defender is not a fan of the hot weather.

"It's very hard getting used to playing in the summer weather," admits De Amicis, who has prior to this season had all his footballing experience in the winter months with Victorian Premier League team Brunswick Juventus.

"The weather is one thing that really affects my performance," he says.

"In winter you can run all day, you are cold and you naturally try to keep warm.

"In the heat of summer you get dragged down.

"I think the game would be more entertaining in winter. It's not just myself that suffers, you see a lot of other players really affected by the heat during games."

De Amicis, knowing that he will have to face the summer sun more often than not, admits that his game-plan has been adjusted to compensate not only for the weather, but also for the increased pace of CCSL soccer.

"The game is much more disciplined at this level," he says.

De Amicis is the epitome of the new breed of full-back whose role is extended to incorporate playmaking through bursts of speed down the flanks.

One of the fastest men in the game, De Amicis,



Melbourne CSC's big hope Fausto De Amicis

usually at left-back, doesn't really mind where he plays.

"To tell you the truth I don't even know how I started at left-back," he says, "I think Manfred Schaefer tried me there one day for Juventus and it stuck."

Recruited to Melbourne by former coach Ken

Murphy, De Amicis has become an integral member of the team since his debut in round four against Marconi.

Melbourne CSC won that match by an astonishing 4-0 margin and De Amicis had made an immediate impact subduing the dangerous Steve

Corica.

"Ken (Murphy) told me he wanted me and I was lucky because I arrived at a time when there were a few injuries and I was able to slot in," says De Amicis.

Under new coach, Branko Culina, De Amicis's role has altered slightly, with his

appearance in the right-back role on a few occasions.

De Amicis, as a member of the Juventus side that was thrashed in last year's Premier League Grand Final by North Geelong, is well aware of the ironies of his move to Somers Street.

Aside from both clubs having strong Croatian community ties, Culina was North Geelong's coach, fellow Melbourne CSC defender Steve Horvat was its captain and teammate Adrian Cervinski the man who helped bury Juventus with a stunning goal.

It could have been worse for De Amicis had Bogdan Bonk, another North Geelong hero, been maintained at Melbourne CSC.

Whilst the tie with Bonk no longer exists, De Amicis and the Polish veteran do share the honour of being the stars at last year's Victorian awards night.

Whilst Bonk picked up the Gold Medal for the Best and Fairest as judged by the referees, De Amicis was a stunned recipient of the Bill Fleming Best and Fairest trophy as judged by the media.

"That was the biggest shock of my life," admits De Amicis.

"To tell you the truth I hardly knew what the award meant until I received it. I was just amazed to hear my name.

"I was so dazed I think I even thanked the wrong people.

"But I can tell you now, my family and I are very, very proud of it.

"It's the first thing I've achieved and received."

On present form it is likely to be the first of many tangible rewards for De Amicis.

CUP RESULTS

The 1993 Diabetes Australia Dockerty Cup competition opened in spectacular style for Premier League clubs as the Victorian season officially opened on February 21.

Only two opening round matches were played to get Australia's oldest soccer competition underway for the new year with both Premier League clubs involved recording easy wins.

St Albans, under new player-coach Les Carter, routed Mordialloc 5-0 and 1992 champions North Geelong, also boasting a new coach in Tony Vrzina, had an easy 3-0 win over Latrobe Valley title winners Pegasus.

OPENING ROUND

DOCKERTY CUP RESULTS

Pegasus 0 - North Geelong 3 (Stojanoski, Skoko, Jerbac)

St Albans 5 (Carter, Skenderovic, Kolar, Trogrlic, Alilovic) - Mordialloc 0

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McLachlan goes full time

BY GREG BLAKE

Morwell Falcons have appointed coach Bobby McLachlan as the full-time senior boss and youth development officer with the club in the Gippsland region.

Scottish-born McLachlan, a three time Victorian championship-winning coach, has given up a full time teaching role and shifted home to Morwell to take up his new position.

"This is an enormous challenge for me but I'm really looking forward to the full time involvement in soccer in the valley", McLachlan said.

"Morwell's promotion to and subsequent relative success in the CCSL has been a huge boost to the game in the region and it's my job now to try and carry that success on".

McLachlan's first task other than guiding the Falcons through the remainder of the current CCSL campaign is to undertake an extensive school visitation schedule and host coaching courses and talent identification camps in the region.

On the Morwell senior team, McLachlan says he is now planning for the 1993/94 campaign.

"I certainly think

we're in a better position from not having a team at the beginning of the year", he explained.

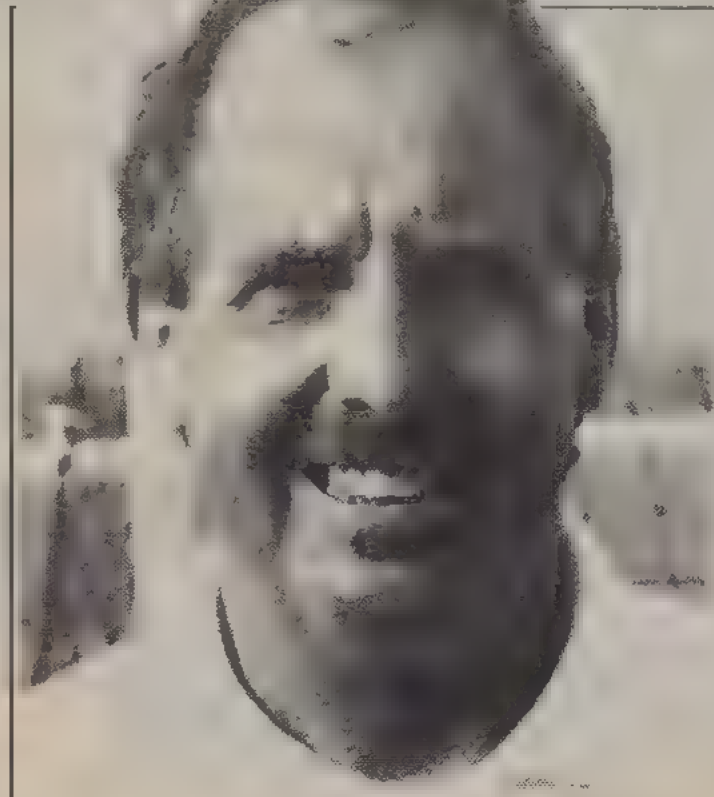
"We've got a semblance of a team now and we know what is required in the CCSL.

"We're much stronger than we were a couple of months back.

"The biggest thing this year was keeping faith with the local supporters.

"The biggest worry was getting beaten 5-0 or 6-0.

"But we've fought reasonably well down there and the people have started coming out and want to see us".



Morwell Falcons coach Bobby McLachlan



Compiled by Lou Gautier.

New look Torino



Torino in Italian League action

It's all change at Torino. Not the players. Not the coach. But the president.

Selling local heroes Gianluigi Lentini to Milan and Roberto Cravero to Lazio was too much for the fans. So president Mario Borsano has sold his 76 per cent of shares to lawyer Roberto Goveani.

The new man is the youngest president in Serie A. The cash he's had to find, for a man of 35, is staggering.

Goveani paid \$17 million for Borsano's shares; provided a personal guarantee for the club's \$22 million debt; and has promised to provide another \$22 million towards new players over the next two years.

PARDO SHOCKER

French football has been stunned by the sad case of Bernard Pardo.

The one-time Marseille international midfielder has been held in custody by police on charges of supplying cocaine.

Pardo's lawyer says his world fell apart after an injury in training destroyed his career and forced his premature retirement.

"Pardo," his lawyer says, "suddenly had too much time on his hands."

"During his career, his days had been taken up with the proper discipline of a sportsman."

"Then, his world crashed around him and he fell into the wrong company."

Pardo might have escaped arrest had he been quicker to take up an offer from former team-mate Laurent Roussey to play for a team on the distant French Pacific Ocean island of Reunion.



BERNARD PARDO

HANS PLANS HIS FUTURE

Veteran PSV 'keeper Hans van Breukelen wants to go into soccer management when he retires in two years' time.

But not as an 'ordinary' team manager but as general manager.

Van Breukelen, who retired from the Dutch national team after last year's European Championship finals, says: "What I want is to build up a club from next to nothing to something grand."

"I want to plan the strategy of developing the stadium, buying the players, building a winning team."

"I'm realistic. I don't want to start right at the bottom because I want a club with real potential."

"But more experienced men would be chasing a job like that, so I accept that taking me on would be a risk."

"But I believe I can do a good job."



■ Liannong have repeated as champions of China — but only just. They won the league one point clear of Guangzhou, with Dalian a further point behind.

■ Thanks to Nigerian striker Chima Okeri, who scored 15 goals in 18 league matches, Mohun Bagan are the champions of India. Mohammedan and East Bengals finished second and third respectively.

■ Dinamo Bucharest assistant coach Viorel Hizo is now in charge of another Romanian club, Inter Sibiu.

■ Thirty-two-year-old Gunter Hermann, one of Werder Bremen's stalwarts, has left the northern German club to join Wattenscheid. Hermann, who has two 'A' caps to his credit, says he can no longer accept coach Otto Rehhagel's conception of the game.

■ New Zealand international Shane Rufer, Wynton's brother, is now playing in the Swiss Third Division after joining Geneva club FC Grand Lancy.

■ Victor Piturca, the former Romanian international midfielder who was coaching Steaua Bucharest, has bowed out of football to run a delicatessen.

■ Johan Cruyff is to have his effigy in wax at Madame Tussaud's Museum in London. He will be the first Dutchman, or woman, thus honoured.

■ The World Cup qualifier between England and Ireland at Wembley on April 28 is already sold out. All tickets were grabbed the day they went on sale — February 6.

■ FC Barcelona president Josep Lluís Nunez has been re-elected as club president for another four years. Nunez, who came to power in 1978, was unopposed.

■ Rio champions Vasco da Gama are interested in securing the services of Fluminense striker Vagner. Vasco have not been the same since they lost Bebeto to Europe nine months ago.

■ Obed Mlota is the new coach of Swaziland's national team. The 38-year-old former defender replaces Dumisa Malalesa. His first match at the helm produced a flattering result: a 0-0 draw with Cameroon.

■ If Manchester is successful in its bid to stage the 2000 Olympics, Old Trafford will undergo a massive facelift. The final of the Olympic football tournament and several matches will be played there.

■ A team from the United States, Professional League champions San Francisco Blackhawks, has applied to compete in the Mexican Second Division in season 1993/94.

■ German coach Herbert Neumann, 39, has renewed his contract with Dutch side Vitesse. He will remain in Arnhem until 1995.

■ The national teams of Ecuador and Belarus (a former Soviet republic) drew 1-1 in front of 20,000 spectators in Guayaquil. Three days later, at the same location, Ecuador downed Romania 3-0. The Romanians were luckier against Peru, winning 2-0 at Lima.

■ Ukrainian Oleg Blokhin is the new coach of PAOK Salonika. Sacked from Olympiakos, Blokhin is now the man Aussie John Anastasiadis will have to impress. Olympiakos' new boss is Serbian Ljube Petrovic — the coach Blokhin succeeded at PAOK.

■ The Italian Football Federation has refused to accept the naturalisation of Argentinian Abel Balbo. The Udinese goalscoring machine became an Italian citizen on February 1, but the football authorities will still regard him as a foreigner, much to Udinese's chagrin as they were banking on signing another import to fill their quota of three.

■ Heinz Hermann, the 34-year-old midfielder from Grasshoppers Zurich, has retired. Switzerland's most capped player (117 selections in the 'A' side) could not go along with the methods of new Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker (ex-Real Madrid).

■ Reinhard Libuda, West Germany's speedy winger at the 1970 World Cup finals, is gravely ill after undergoing brain surgery in a Munich hospital. He is 50 years old.

■ Ronald De Boer, who played against the Olyroos last year, is to replace Dennis Bergkamp at Ajax. The Amsterdam giants paid \$1 million for him. He will join older brother Frank at the club.

■ Hector De Bourgoing, the Argentinian-born striker who played for France in the mid-sixties, has died at the age of 58 in Nice after a long illness.



THE WORLD TODAY



Compiled by Lou Gautier



Parma's Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla: he could be facing the Socceroos later this year in a World Cup play-off, if the Aussies progress that far.

SAY CHEESE...



STEPHANE CHAPUISAT

Borussia Dortmund's Swiss star Stephane Chapuisat is heading for some sort of award as the most-photographed footballer of the year

But, just for once, it's not Chapuisat himself who has been the direct subject of the cameras but his baby daughter,

Cindy.

Pictures of the doting father have decorated the front pages of newspapers and magazines throughout Germany and Switzerland. Chapuisat says: "It makes a welcome change that another member of the family is getting all the attention for

a change.

"But, in a few months' time, I hope to be taking over again!"

Chapuisat, incidentally, gets along famously with his Aussie team-mate Ned Zelic who rates him as one of the very best strikers in football today.

SCHUSTER WRITE-OFF?

JOHAN Cruyff has written off the career of former Barcelona hero Bernd Schuster.

The German midfield star was the cornerstone of the team which won the League Championship in 1985.

Schuster then moved on to Real Madrid before transferring to neighbours Atletico, where, at 32, he is winding down his career.

He's only just returned to action after three months on the sidelines and Atletico are furious that Schuster, a Christian Scientist, refused antibiotic treatment.

But Cruyff believes Schuster is over the hill anyway.

"He's like another German, Andy Brehme at Zaragoza," says Cruyff.

"Their best games are all history.

"Schuster was a brilliant footballer but he doesn't have the physical resilience any more to withstand the modern game.

"The counter-attacking way Atletico play doesn't help him. If he wants to score any goals he's got to run 60 metres first — then he's got no energy left to shoot!"



BERND SCHUSTER — on the way out.

Japanese sign Brazilian Edu

A club in Japan's new Professional Soccer League has signed former Brazilian international midfielder Edu.

A spokesman for Ana Sato Kogyo FC said Edu, together with two other Brazilians and one Argentinian, was due to arrive in Japan this week to join a flood of foreign stars being recruited for the new J-League.

Edu played for Torino in Italy and Porto of Portugal before returning to Brazil in 1990.

The spokesman declined to disclose payment terms for Edu or the club's other foreign signings. In addition to the arrivals, it has also hired Chelona, a defender from El Salvador.

Ana Sato Kogyo, also known as Flugels (from the German for wing), is owned jointly by Nippon Airways, Japan's second airline, and construction firm Sato Kogyo.

Based in Yokohama, south of Tokyo, the team will also play "show-the-flag" matches in three cities on the southern island of Kyushu which has no J-League side of its own.

The club is one of 10 founder members of the J-League, which kicks off on May 15.

All are signing foreigners in a crash campaign to increase crowd appeal and raise playing standards.

The most famous import, former England captain Gary Lineker, arrived in Japan last Saturday to joining Grampus Eight of Nagoya.

Biggest shareholder in Grampus is car maker Toyota.



THE WORLD TODAY



Compiled by Lou Gautier

Euro giants chase Cup glory



RANGERS



MILAN



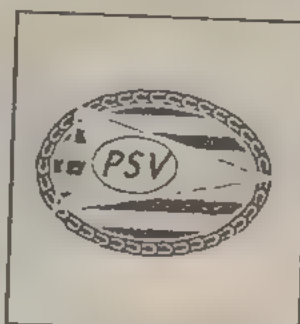
BRUGGE



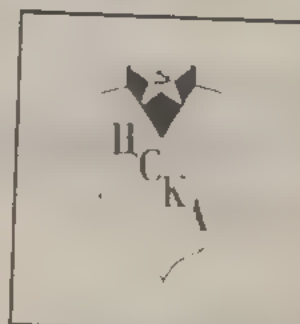
PORTO



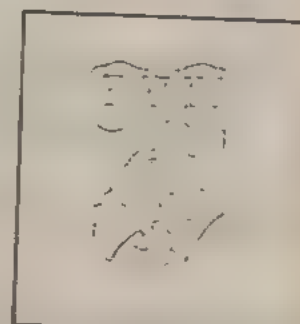
MARSEILLE



PSV



CSKA



GOTHENBURG

Wednesday is a huge day in Europe with the quarter finals of the Cup-Winners' and UEFA Cups and Round 3 in the league format of the Champions' Cup on the menu.

The mid-week draws:

CHAMPIONS' CUP

GROUP 1

FC Brugge v Rangers
CSKA Moscow v Marseille

CURRENT STANDINGS AND PREVIOUS RESULTS

Brugge 1 v 1 CSKA Moscow
Rangers 2 v 2 Marseille
Marseille 3 v 0 Brugge
CSKA 0 v 1 Rangers

GROUP 2

PSV Eindhoven v Goteborg
Porto v AC Milan

CURRENT STANDINGS AND PREVIOUS RESULTS

FC Porto 2 v 2 PSV Eindhoven
Milan 4 v 0 IFK Gothenburg
IFK Gothenburg 1 v 0 FC Porto
PSV Eindhoven 1 v 2 Milan

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Sparta Prague v Parma
Olympiakos v Atletico Madrid
Steaua Bucharest v Antwerp

UEFA CUP

Real Madrid v Paris Saint-Germain
Roma v Borussia Dortmund
Benfica v Juventus
Auxerre v Ajax Amsterdam



Two heads are better than one ... Lazio's foreign imports Paul Gascoigne and Karl-Heinz Riedle gang up on Fiorentina's Lupi in a recent Italian league match.



Abedi Pele (Marseille)



George Weah (Paris St Germain)

THE DEJAN BLUES

DESPITE references that would impress even the most stony-hearted employer, Dejan Savicevic has found work hard to come by this season.

The Montenegrin arrived at AC Milan from Red Star Belgrade last year having built a reputation as one of the best midfielders in Europe. Some pundits went so far as to say he was the best in the world.

But in the all-star cast that is AC Milan, Savicevic's credentials have been swapped by the names and reputations of Marco van Basten, Franco Baresi, Ruud Gullit, Jean-Pierre Papin and half a dozen others.

A victim of Milan's embarrassment of foreign riches — the club have six non-Italians on their books but only three are allowed to play in any one game — Savicevic's appearances have been confined to the occasional league and Italian Cup fixture.

For much of this season he has sat idly by while those in the queue in front of him, France's Papin and Dutchmen van Basten, Gullit and Frank Rijkaard, helped extend Milan's record unbeaten League run to 55 games.

Savicevic has played just five League games in Milan's total of 15 wins and five draws and made four Cup appearances.

Earlier this month he gave a glimpse of his abilities with masterful displays in the League against Genoa and a Cup tie against Derby rivals Internazionale

before frustratingly suffering a hamstring injury.

At Milanello, the club's luxurious training camp, the gifted left-footer made it clear in a recent interview he was not going to tolerate too much more bench-warming.

"If I can play regularly I'll finish my (four-year) contract at Milan, if not I'll go," Savicevic said.

"When I was not playing earlier in the season I was feeling very bad inside. I suffer when I am in the grandstand.

"I got to the point where I started having rows with my wife at home. I couldn't find peace.

"I don't think it's fair to not play for 50 days then be expected to play well in one half of football.

"Marseille and other teams called me and for a moment I thought I might leave. But soccer's so strange. Two matches are enough to change your life.

"Now I'm happy because I've achieved something; not much but something."

Despite a lack of exposure, Savicevic has no shortage of influential fans. "Savicevic is a great player and belongs to that very small group of champions who alone justify the price of a ticket," said Italian national coach Arrigo Sacchi who last made such an observation about none other than Diego Maradona.

Milan president Silvio Berlusconi calls him "untouchable" because of his ability to carry the ball past any number of lunging tackles and says he is "clearly the

recruit of the season".

And with the local sports bible, Gazzetta Dello Sport, also throwing its weight behind the "give Savicevic a go" campaign, pressure is building on Milan coach Fabio Capello to change his selection policy in a way which is kinder to the Montenegrin.

"Milan has broken all sorts of records and has nothing to be ashamed of," wrote a Gazzetta Dello Sport leader.

"But preventing Savicevic from playing every Sunday — and turning him into a part-timer — is a crime against soccer." It is precisely this individuality, and a reluctance to conform to Milan's strict game plan, that may limit Savicevic's future appearances in the red and black strip.

Milan has not got where it is through luck and short-term planning. Its success is due to carefully-planned strategies that revolve around team solidity.

There is little room for mavericks like Savicevic, especially when they are vying for a midfield spot with former European player of the year and favourite son Gullit.

But Savicevic seems determined to stick it out and make his mark with the world's top team.

"I want to stay here for four years if I can, and I hope things will now improve," he said.

"How could one leave a team, an environment like this?"

SOCCER POOLS



THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 397
SAT. 6th MARCH, 1993

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	BLACKBURN	SHEFFIELD UTD	1
	IPSWICH	ARSENAL	2
	LIVERPOOL	MAN. UTD.	3
	QPR	NORWICH	4
	WIMBLEDON	SOUTHAMPTON	5
	BARNLEY	LEICESTER	6
	BIRMINGHAM	OXFORD UTD	7
	BRISTOL C.	TRANMERE	8
	MILLWALL	SUNDERLAND	9
	NEWCASTLE	BRENTFORD	10
	NOTTS C.	BRISTOL R.	11
	PETERBORO	GRIMSBY	12
	PORTSMOUTH	LUTON	13
	SOUTHEND	CHARLTON	14
	WATFORD	SWINDON	15
	WEST HAM	WOLVES	16
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BLACKPOOL	HARTLEPOOL	17
	BOLTON	LEYTON O.	18
	BOURNEMOUTH	EXETER	19
	BRADFORD C.	HULL	20
	BRIGHTON	PORT VALE	21
	FULHAM	READING	22
	HUDDERSFIELD	ROTHERHAM	23
	MANSFIELD	WIGAN A.	24
	PLYMOUTH	PRESTON	25
	STOKE	CHESTER	26
	WEST BROM.	BURNLEY	27
	CREWE	GILLINGHAM	28
	LINCOLN	NORTHAMPTON	29
	ROCHDALE	CARDIFF	30
	SCARBORO	BURY	31
	SCUNTHORPE	CHESTERFIELD	32
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	SHREWSBURY	BARNET	33
	TORQUAY	DARLINGTON	34
	WREXHAM	HEREFORD	35
	CHEL TENHAM	HASTINGS T.	36
	CRAWLEY	MOOR GREEN	37
	GLOUCESTER	BASHLEY	38

RESERVE MATCHES

BEAZER HOM. LEAGUE PREMIER DIV.	HEDNESFORD	BURTON A.	39
	SOLI HULL	DORCHESTER	40
	TROWBRIDGE	DOVER	41
	WEYMOUTH	ATHERSTONE	42
	WORCESTER	V.S. RUGBY	43
SCOT. PREMIER DIV.	BERWICK	CLYDEBANK	44
	HEARTS	FALKIRK	45
	HIBERNIAN	S. JOHNSTONE	46
	AIRDRIE	DUNDEE U.	47
	DUNDEE	MOTHERWELL	48
SCOT. DIV. 2	AYR	COWDENB'TH	49
	HAMILTON	DUMBARTON	50
	RAITH	MORTON	51
	ST MIRREN	DUNFERMLINE	52
	STIRLING A.	KILMARNOCK	53
SCOT. DIV. 3	BERWICK	CLYDE	54
	FORFAR	STENH'UIR	55

* F.A. CUP 6TH ROUND
* BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
* TERNHILL SCOTTISH CUP 5TH ROUND

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia, Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.
Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

GET YOUR POOLS IN!

It takes only six numbers to win.

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 396
SAT. 27th FEBRUARY, 1993

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ASTON VILLA	WIMBLEDON	1	1-0
	CRYSTAL P.	COVENTRY	2	0-0
	EVERTON	OLDHAM	3	2-2
	MAN. UTD.	MIDLESBORO	4	3-0
	SHEFF. WED.	LIVERPOOL	5	1-1
	SOUTHAMPTON	SHEFF. UTD.	6	3-2
	TOTTENHAM	Q.P.R.	7	3-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BRENTFORD	PETERBORO	8	0-1
	BRISTOL R.	WATFORD	9	0-3
	CAMBRIDGE U.	MILLWALL	10	1-1
	CHARLTON	BRISTOL C.	11	2-1
	GRIMSBY	NOTTS. C.	12	3-3
	LUTON	BARNLEY	13	2-2
	SWINDON	PORTSMOUTH	14	1-0
	WOLVES	SOUTHEND	15	1-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BURNLEY	BRADFORD C.	16	2-2
	CHESTER	PLYMOUTH	17	1-2
	EXETER	BWANSEA	18	0-2
	HARTLEPOOL	BOLTON	19	0-2
	HULL	FULHAM	20	1-1
	LEYTON O.	STOKE	21	1-0
	PORT VALE	WEST BROM.	22	2-1
	PRESTON	BLACKPOOL	23	3-3
	READING	HUDDERSFIELD	24	2-1
	WIGAN A.	BRIGHTON	25	1-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BURY	WREXHAM	26	3-1
	CARDIFF	CREWE	27	1-1
	CARLISLE	ROCHDALE	28	3-0
	CHESTERFIELD	TORQUAY	29	1-0
	DARLINGTON	SHREWSBURY	30	0-2
	GILLINGHAM	DONCASTER	31	1-1
	NORTHAMPTON	SCARBORO	32	1-3
	WALSALL	LINCOLN	33	1-2
	YORK	SCUNTHORPE	34	5-1
	HARROW	BASINGSTOKE	35	0-0
	HAYES	GRAYS	36	1-1
	HENDON	DULWICH	37	2-1
	KINGSTONIAN	ENFIELD	38	2-3

* DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT WEEK 9/2/93 WEEK 393

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURED										NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURED											
145	147	162	137	145	173	151	175	161	179		112	129	130	118	115	119	113	110	114	119	
175	181	174	175	180	169	178	166	170	186		111	120	110	111	112	110	111	113	114	115	
170	187	184	171	172	187	174	199	182	1102		113	111	120	114	1111	118	119	113	118	112	
189	178	183	194	193	194	183	179				110	113	111	118	117	110	115	111			
Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools																					

Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 396 SAT FEBRUARY 27, 1993

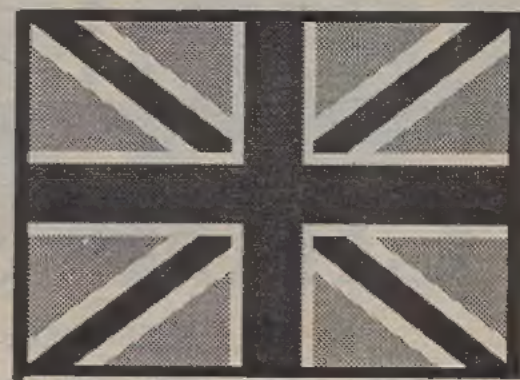
Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
3, 12, 13, 16, 23, 36.
Supplementary Number 31.

UK SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE Aston Villa 1 Wimbledon 0, Crystal Palace 0 Coventry 0, Everton 2 Oldham 2, Leeds 1 Ipswich 0, Manchester United 3 Middlesbrough 0, Nottingham Forest 0 Manchester City 2, Sheffield Wednesday 1 Liverpool 1, Southampton 3 Sheffield United 2, Tottenham 3 Queen Park Rangers 2										ENGLISH DIVISION TWO Barnet 2, Bradford 2, Chester 1 Plymouth 2, Exeter 0 Swanssea 2, Hartlepool 0 Bolton 2, Hull 1 Fulham 1, Leyton Orient 1 Stoke 0, Port Vale 2 West Bromwich 1, Preston 3 Blackpool 3, Reading 2 Huddersfield 1, Wigan 1 Brighton 2, Rotherham 1 Bournemouth 2, Stockport 0 Mansfield 1										ENGLISH DIVISION THREE Bury 3 Wrexham 1, Cardiff 1 Crewe 1, Carlisle 3 Rochdale 0, Chesterfield 1 Torquay 0, Darlington 0 Shrewsbury 2, Gillingham 1 Doncaster 1, Northampton 1 Scarborough 3, Walsall 1 Lincoln 2, York 5 Souths 1, Colchester 1 Halesowen 2 2, York 5 Souths 1, Colchester 1 Halesowen 2										ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR Harrow 0 Basingstoke 0, Hayes 1 Grays 1, Hendon 2 Dulwich 1, Kingstonian 2 Enfield 3, St Albans 2 Staines 2										SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION Rangers 31 28 6 1 78 24 54 Aberdeen 30 18 7 5 64 22 43 Celtic 32 15 11 6 49 31 41 Hearts 32 13 11 8 35 29 37 Dundee Utd 32 13 8 11 34 33 34 Hibernian 32 9 11 12 40 45 29 St Johnstone 32 8 11 13 37 51 27 Dundee 32 9 8 15 39 50 26 Partick 31 8 9 14 35 53 25 Motherwell 32 7 10 15 34 50 24 Airdrie 32 4 12 16 23 50 20 Falkirk 32 8 4 20 44 72 20										SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE Raith 32 19 11 2 64 28 49 Dunfermline 32 19 4 7 54 34 42 Kilmarnock 32 17 7 8 47 28 41 St Mirren 32 16 7 9 43 36 39 Hamilton 31 14 9 8 48 29 37 Morton 32 14 7 11 50 40 35 Clydebank 32 10 10 12 49 48 30 Ayr 31 9 11 11 33 34 29 Dumbarton 32 13 3 16 49 59 29 M'bank 32 8 8 16 36 60 24 Stirling 32 5 10 17 27 46 20 Cowden 32 1 5 26 25 83 7										SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO Brechin 28 17 7 4 47 21 41 Dundee 28 15 8 5 57 29 38 Stranraer 28 12 11 5 39 29 35 Alloa 28 14 7 7 44 36 35 Forfar 28 13 7 8 56 40 33 East Fife 28 12 6 10 56 44 30 Arbroath 28 12 6 10 39 38 30 Stirling Albion 28 9 10 11 37 27 41 Berwick 28 10 5 13 42 51 25 Queen of Sts 28 8 7 13 39 49 23 Montrose 28 8 4 16 37 58 20 E. Stirling 28 7 6 15 43 67 20 Queen's Park 28 7 5 16 37 53 19 Albion 28 4 8 16 25 52 16									
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For Past Results and Historical Data on the Pools, write to: T.M.S. P.O. Box 2937 DD GPO Melbourne 3001. Or phone (03)328 3345

British Roundup



THROUGH TO PAGE 24

King Kevin of Tyneside

BY PETER KEELING

KEVIN Keegan played for Scunthorpe United, Liverpool, SV Hamburg, Southampton and Newcastle.

He won 63 England caps, won three League championship medals, an FA Cup medal in 1974 when scoring twice in Liverpool's 3-0 defeat of Newcastle United, won the European Champions' Cup twice and the UEFA Cup twice with Liverpool, and was twice European Footballer of the Year.

Now after a long spell out of the game, and after vowing when he retired from playing that he would never go into management, Keegan has just completed an amazing first year as manager of Newcastle United.

His appointment 12 months ago caused a sensation because he had been absent from the game for eight years, enjoying himself playing golf in Spain and spending any spare time on English racecourses.

When he took over the

famous St James's Park club, Newcastle were facing bankruptcy, looked like being relegated to the Third Division, and bringing him back to Newcastle was virtually the last, desperate throw of the dice by the Newcastle board of directors.

Newcastle have led the First Division for months and look certain to win promotion to the new Premier League.

After living the life of a playboy for eight years Keegan met with some scepticism when he breezed into Newcastle last February and promised to build a team capable of matching the great teams of 30 years ago that made United one of the most feared in the land.

Traditions have lived on to such an extent that even with minimal success the club was the best supported in Britain, and it was said that thousands would turn up at St James's Park just to watch the grass grow.

Crippled by debts Newcastle looked beyond extensive surgery especially from a doctor who had never wielded a scalpel before in



Kevin Keegan

his life.

The critics expected Keegan to fall flat on his face, and with no experience of managing or coaching even his most ardent admirers feared the worst.

But the club that has produced Gazza, Peter Beardsley and Chris Waddle

as well as old heroes Jackie Milburn and Len Shackleton and the legendary Hughie Gallacher had nothing to lose.

With the bank manager beating at the boardroom door, the staff wondering where their next wage cheque was coming from,

and with the supporters thoroughly disenchanted it could have been the end of one of Britain's great sides.

They had in the past won four League championships, five FA Cups and two European trophies, but they were just memories of long ago.

But now they are poised for what looks a certain return to top flight football and the average attendance this season is around 28,000.

Sir John Hall, the man who gambled by bringing Keegan to the club, has put £6 million of his personal fortune into keeping Newcastle United afloat, and he says the secret of Keegan's success is that "he knows how to motivate people."

Admits Sir John: "It was a gamble bringing Kevin in with no experience of management, but we were facing extinction as a club and our attitude was, what have we to lose?"

Immediately Keegan said: "I don't intend to be a failure. I want to start the ball rolling and build up this great club once more."

His homecoming was like a religious event. Moderate Bristol City were the opponents, but 30,000 packed the ground, and with thousands locked outside the ground Newcastle won, and the ball has never stopped rolling since.

Keegan has been called "Andy McDaft" because as a player he was soccer daft, soccer crazy, and never stopped running. Goalkeeper Tommy Wright now describes him as "Mighty Mouse." He says "He inspired us so much. He has such great charisma and his enthusiasm is so infectious that you can't help doing your best. He made the dressing room a place of confidence."

"He fired up the supporters, and now it's not true to say a thousand people would turn up here to watch the grass grow. That's an understatement. I reckon 10,000 people would turn up to watch the players shirts drying on a clothes line."

Not that Newcastle's fight away from relegation was a cut and dried thing last season. In fact only an own goal in the final minute of the last match of last season won survival for Keegan's team.

Despite the rousing welcome home he received, such a close run thing at the end of the season did not arouse any great expectations of a miraculous turn round in fortunes this year; but that is what Keegan and his assistant Terry McDermott have done.

They started with a fantastic eleven straight wins, and have maintained the tempo as the highest scoring team in the English Football League, and have also had a great, money-spinning Cup run that

culminated last weekend with a clash with Blackburn Rovers, managed by Kenny Dalglish, the man who followed Keegan to Anfield and took his place in the Liverpool side.

There is still a lot of work for Keegan to do, and the testing times are only just beginning, because the real crunch will come when he starts next season's new Premier League term.

For success will be expected when they finally tangle again week in week out with the likes of Manchester United, Spurs, Arsenal and Liverpool.

Says Keegan: "Newcastle is the greatest club in the country. There is terrific potential here, but it is no good if we do not realise that potential."

"Nobody would have bet 12 months ago that now we would be almost ready to step into the Premier League; but I must admit that it has NOT been hard work. I've just enjoyed every minute of it."

One thing is certain, however, that despite the £6 million investment, Sir John Hall has not finished spending his money on Newcastle United. Keegan walked away from the club a few months ago, threatening to quit if there was not more cash for new players, and it is certain he will want to spend heavily to improve his team still further during the summer break.

Keegan clearly is in the middle of a love affair with Newcastle United and their supporters. He was single-minded as a player and will be single-minded as a manager to want the best for his club.

Doctor Keegan's cure has worked. The patient is alive and kicking, and Keegan does not intend that there will be any relapse.

McAllister to stay at Leeds



Scottish international Gary McAllister

GARY McAllister is ready to give Leeds a much needed boost by signing a new deal.

The £1 million midfield ace was being tipped to move on after three years at Elland Road.

Super Mac was disillusioned at Leeds' failure to make an impact in this year's European Cup and their title defence.

Rangers, Blackburn and Liverpool were all sniffing on the trail of the 28-year-old Scot. But now they look like being disappointed.

McAllister, whose current deal ends this summer, had fresh talks two weeks ago and they went well.

He is close to agreeing a contract which could take him to 1997 and cover his prime years. It's good news for boss Howard Wilkinson after another knockback in the transfer market.

He has failed in a move for Liverpool hitman Ronny Rosenthal.

The 29-year-old Israeli is out in the cold at Anfield but Wilko could not agree terms.

However, Wilkinson is set for a major rebuild of his shattered champions, meaning the end for the Leeds old guard.

Wilkinson has let it be known that the six of his title-winning side are available. Lee Chapman, Chris Whyte, Chris Fairclough and Mel Sterland look vulnerable.

Everton chief Howard Kendall is watching Dutch striker Pierre van Hooydonk.

Kendall flew out to spy on the English-style, 6ft 2in Under 21 international — but a blanket of fog foiled him and he'll have to go again.

Kevin Keegan has made a £500,000 bid to bring African striker Bachirou Salou to Newcastle after being impressed during his trial.



Leeds manager Howard Wilkinson

Royle's nibble at Dibble

OLDHAM are ready to go back for Manchester City's unhappy keeper Andy Dibble.

★ Dibble spent one day at Boundary Park on loan, but was recalled to cover for £1 million Tony Coton when Martyn Margetson injured his back.

Oldham boss Joe Royle is also trialling Norwich striker Darren Beckford and has opened talks after watching him twice.

★ TOP Dutch coach Theo Vonk wants to follow his son — Manchester City's Michael — into English football. Theo has coached at Sparta Rotterdam, Twente Enschede and Burgos in Spain.

UK REPORTS

CHOP SOUEY!

SHEFF WEDS 1 LIVERPOOL 1

GRAEME SOUNESS took the gamble of his life by axing record scorer Ian Rush and saw his bravery come within nine minutes of wrecking form team Wednesday.

Liverpool boss Souness, under pressure after only one win in nine league games, said he would shock somebody — but the odds were on Paul Stewart or even John Barnes to feel the axe.

Instead, it was Ruth, the 290 goal Welsh hitman, who found himself so far out in the cold he did not even have a place on the bench.

And, ironically, it was Don Hutchison forming a new style spear-head with Steve McManaman who snatched the 81st minute goal that looked like breaking Wednesday's 15-match unbeaten run and hold up their run for the title.

THUNDER

A Liverpool victory looked even more likely when Wednesday's Nigel Worthington was sent off after fouling McManaman when the lanky hit man was clean through.

The dismissal came 10 minutes after they had lost defender Peter Shirliff with a broken arm following a 55th minute challenge on Barnes.

But 10 man Wednesday would not give up. And, in the 81st minute, substitute Viv Anderson thundered in his saving header from Chris Waddle's cross.

Liverpool had made the breakthrough following a rare mistake from Worthington.

The left-back's world turned upside down in a minute. First, his free-kick, cheated Liverpool's offside trap and demanded a desperate save by David James from Mark Bright.

STRUGGLE

Then he turned in horror, holding his head in his hands, when his limp back-pass to Chris Woods let in Hutchinson to slip the ball past the England keeper.

Stung Wednesday forced six corners before the break and scoring sensation Paul Warhurst almost knocked James off his feet with a half volley.

Then Bright cleverly made space for himself in a crowded penalty area — only to shoot wide.

But, on the whole, Wednesday struggled to make chances as clear cut as the ones wasted by Barnes, again tastelessly booed, and McManaman.

Magic Miller defies Swans

EXETER 0 SWANSEA 2



EXETER keeper Kevin Miller played a blinder and almost won his side a share of the points they never deserved.

Swansea dominated the first half in this ninth meeting in League and Cup between the teams this season.

But Miller pulled off ball a dozen superb saves particularly to shots from Andrew Legg and John Ford.

And Miller showed his courage with great saves at the feet of John Careforth and John Ford.

As one game was abandoned when the floodlights failed, this Swansea victory meant three wins for each side.

And while Swansea thoroughly deserved to triumph, they left it mighty late before getting among the goals.

Exeter livened up in the second period and for the first time put some pressure on keeper Roger Freestone.

He saved well from Eamon Dolan, and John Hodge was inches wide when he was put through on his own.

But when Miller miscued a back pass in the 73rd minute, the ball fell to Des Lytle who cracked in Swansea's first.

Then four minutes from time, Colin West put the finishing touches to Andy McFarlane's cross to make it safe for the Swans.

Shilts gets boost from old one-two

CHESTER 1 PLYMOUTH 2

PETER SHILTON's Plymouth grabbed full points and only their second away win of the season with a sensational double strike in just 30 seconds.

■ After a scrappy first half, the visitors took the lead two minutes after the break when Paul Dalton crossed and Steve Castle's header was deflected past Billy Stewart.

Then, with the Chester defence still reeling, Plymouth striker Lee Hodges, making his debut on a month's loan from Spurs, hit a second with a neat flick from inside the box.

■ Chester top scorer Stuart Rimmer pulled one back for Chester with a header for his 15th of the season following a long throw-in from Pugh in 60 minutes but they were unable to grab an equaliser.

DEATH OF



Bobby Moore in action for England

BOBBY MOORE FACTFILE



★ **CAREER** facts of Bobby Moore, captain of the England soccer team that won the World Cup in 1966, who died at home this week from cancer aged 51. BORN: Barking, Essex, April 12, 1941.

★ **CLUB RECORD:** West Ham and Fulham. Played 544 games for West Ham, scoring 22 goals, between 1958-73. Played 124 games for Fulham, scoring one goal, between 1973-76.

INTERNATIONAL RECORD: 108 caps for England, scoring two goals, between 1962-74. Eight Under-23 caps.

★ **HONOURS:** Captained England to World Cup win in 1966. Footballer of the Year 1963-64. Awarded OBE 1967. FA Cup Winners' medal with West Ham 1964. European Cup Winners' Cup winner medal with West Ham 1965. FA Cup final losers' medal with Fulham 1975.

MANAGERIAL RECORD: Oxford City, Southend United (1984-86).

A LEGEND

England mourns after World Cup captain loses cancer battle.

BOBBY MOORE, who led England to its only World Cup success, was remembered as "one of the immortals of soccer" and "a gentleman of the sport".

Moore, who died after a two-year battle against cancer, was hailed by his soccer peers as a legendary figure and one of the most dignified of sportsmen.

Sir Alf Ramsey, manager of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team, described Moore as "the heartbeat of the England team in 1966."

"It would have been impossible to win the World Cup without Bobby Moore as captain," said Ramsey.

"He was my right-hand man, a cool calculated footballer I could trust with my life."

Pele, the Brazilian contemporary of Moore who played against him in the 1970 World Cup, said: "The world has lost one of its greatest football players and a great gentleman."

Soccer's world governing body added its tribute, saying: "In the eyes of FIFA, Moore is one of the all-time greats."

"Bobby Moore was very well-loved in the world of football. He was a typical English gentleman and alongside Bobby Charlton was the best-known in that team," said FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni.

Bobby Charlton, his friend and teammate in the 1966 final, said: "The football people in the country will miss Bobby Moore."

"If you played with him you would know that he was a gentle man. He was very kind, very courteous, very thoughtful and really always did things with a lot of style."

British Prime Minister, John Major, a keen soccer supporter, said: "Bobby Moore will forever be remembered for leading England to victory in the 1966 World Cup."

England manager Graham Taylor said: "My enduring picture of Bobby Moore will always be him lifting the World Cup in 1966. As a young professional player myself, that day he was captain of all of us, not just the England team. That image will always remain with me."

West Ham United, for whom Moore played 668 League games and won the FA Cup and European Cup winners' Cup, said: "He was the greatest ever West Ham player."

"Bobby was the people's captain

...Thomson pays tribute to "Super Captain"

Socceroo coach Eddie Thomson, who played alongside Moore in 1975, hailed the Englishman as a "dream captain".

Thomson was a team mate of Moore's at San Antonio Thunder in America, and described the classy defender as "probably the best player I've ever played with."

"In the 1966 and 1970 World Cups, England had a great side and he held the ship together all the time," said Thomson.

"Bobby was a gentleman on the park and a gentleman off the park. He was everybody's favourite."

Moore, then 33, was nearing the end of his career when he played with San Antonio.

Football was going through a boom period in America during the mid-70s,



Glory: Moore lifts the World Cup for England in 1966

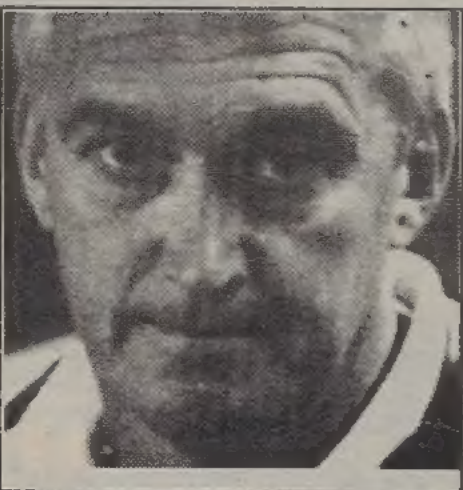
and was extremely proud to lead his club and country. His memory will live for ever around Upton Park."

Current England international David Platt, who captained the team for the first time last week, said: "He was a footballer of intelligence and vision, a man of dignity and stature."

"I have spent time with Bobby Moore after every England game at Wembley since I broke into the side in 1989. I missed him last week. Now I will always miss him."

Moore, born in Barking on April 12, 1941, the only son of an electricity board worker, did not have to stay far from his east London roots during his footballing career.

He was snapped up by his local club West Ham, and made his debut for them as a 17-year-old against Manchester United in 1958. He made his full England debut in 1962 against Peru, shortly before Alf Ramsey took over as manager.



National coach Eddie Thomson

largely through the likes of Moore and Pele playing in the national league.

"Every time you were in trouble with the ball, Bobby was there. He used to read

the game so well," said Thomson.

"It's a long time since England has had a Bobby Moore playing at the back."

At San Antonio, Thomson roomed with Moore on away trips and was a frequent golfing partner.

During his stint in America, Thomson also discovered Moore's attitude to football.

"He trained as though each game would be his last," said Thomson.

"He didn't have to say much to make you toe the line."

Thomson last spoke with Moore in March last year in Holland during a Socceroo training camp.

They had both watched Feyenoord play Tottenham and were enjoying a beer afterwards when Thomson learned of Moore's illness.

UK REPORTS

Bassett beached

SOUTHAMPTON 3 SHEFF UTD 2

HARRY BASSETT's seaside remedy backfired. His United lads were so relaxed after a couple of days at Bournemouth they were two down inside the first five minutes from goal by defender Kevin Moore and Jeff Kenna's first strike in 34 games.

Brian Gayle pulled one back but Iain Dowie restored Saints' two-goal lead before half-time. Ian Bryson made it 3-2 10 minutes from time.

United have a dreadful away record of only five points from 16 trips.



FOREST BOTTLE IT

NOTTINGHAM FOREST 0 MANCHESTER CITY 2



HOW Brian Clough must wish he could reach for the Sherry.

The Nottingham Forest boss knows he was wrong to unload £2 million striker Teddy Sheringham to Spurs this season.

And his feeble side showed that they could do with a whole lotta bottle.

For, as Sheringham was Tottenham's two goal hero last Saturday, Forest landed right back in the relegation mire.

Lee Clover and Nigel Clough must have given City defenders Andy Hill and Michel Vonk their easiest game of the season.

Forest, trailing to David White's 17th goal of the season, had to rely on substitute Brian Laws for their best two efforts on goal.

And it was no surprise when Gary Philcroft finished them off in the 88th minute, chipping over keeper Mark Crossley from White's pass.

Drab and lifeless

CRYSTAL PALACE 0 COVENTRY 0

COVENTRY'S flying winger Peter Ndiouu missed this match because of World Cup duty with Zimbabwe.

He was the lucky one! While he was baking in the African sunshine, his freezing team-mates were involved in a drab, lifeless match.

A dreadful first half was followed by a second period that was slightly better.

The best chances fell to Palace after the break. Peter Atherton blocked a penetrating run from Andy Thorn and Palace dangerman Chris Armstrong headed wide after the game's only decent move.



Revival is short lived

CHARLTON 2 BRISTOL CITY 1

HOTSHOT Andy Cole tucked n his 16th goal of the season - but it wasn't enough against battling Charlton, who stole the points in injury time.

Struggling City led for 76 minutes after Cole's early strike, but the injection of substitute Paul Gorman into the home attack fired the Londoners to a brilliant comeback.

Gorman pounced with only 11 minutes left - and caretaker-boss Russell Osman can count himself lucky.

When Carl Leaburn headed down Colin Walsh's cross, Gorman stuck out a leg to poke in the ball from point blank range.

But Osman, a half-time substitute for Jack Dziekanowski, stuck out a hand and touched the ball as it crossed the line.

If he'd stopped it, he could have found himself off and suspended.

Yet worse was to come. City failed to clear Walsh's free-kick with the clock on 92 minutes and Steve Gating forced in a cruel winner.



Paul Gascoigne: can he keep his promise

GAZZA: I WILL BE A GOOD BOY

PAUL GASCOIGNE has vowed to knuckle down in Italy and establish himself as one of football's greats.

The £5.5million Lazio star insisted: "I'm ready to try and become one of the best players in the world and I think I can do it. I'm going to let my feet do the talking."

Gazza said: "There have been a lot of rumours about me not being happy, being homesick and that Lario wouldn't sign another Englishman."

"And while I'm not going to be happy all the time in Italy because it's not my country

and the training is hard, I'm going to knuckle down and get back on good terms with everyone."

"Everyone in the world has problems but mine make headlines."

As for Lazio not wanting another player from England, Gazza smiled: "I'm sure they'd like another 10 like me!"

LEEDS are hotting up their xxx to solve their problem right back spot.

They have targeted two Middlesbrough defenders — Republic of Ireland international Chris Morris and shock choice Gary

Parkinson.

Leeds also remain keen on Nottingham Forest's England defender Gary Charles.

BARNSELY are the latest club to join the World Youth Cup row after the FA blocked their move to delay keeper Davie Watson's trip to Australia.

Barnsley boss Mel Machin said: "We asked to keep Watson for another week, heading when he goals. I'll have only one fit keeper at the club."

"We were even prepared to fly out Dave at our expense but the FA turned as down."

Palace eye Calderwood

CRYSTAL PALACE are set to sweep for Swindon's Colin Calderwood. Steve Coppell sees £850,000 Calderwood as the ideal replacement for Eric Young.

Swindon are £2.5 million in debt and boss Glenn Hoddle has been told he must raise £1 million.

■ NORWICH's Jeremy Goss has recovered from a calf strain and looks certain to play against Blackburn.

■ BRIAN CLOUGH has put himself on a collision course with England manager Graham Taylor over Stuart Pearce.

Forest's England skipper is out for another month with a groin injury that was aggravated in training before England's match with San Marino.

Clough used last week's programme notes to have a dig at Taylor.

He said: "The last thing players need on a Monday and Tuesday before a Wednesday game is two two-hour training sessions plus somersaults. Thanks to the somersaults, I've lost my skipper for another four to six weeks."

■ BUSINESSMAN Paddy Lynch has offered £1 to buy First Division Birmingham City. he said: "The club has so many debts that's all it's worth."

■ CELTIC's Tony Mowbray could be a Chelsea target.

Ooh arghh United



Eric Cantona

★ MANCHESTER UNITED's title hopes took a huge blow at the weekend. Eric Cantona, their French international, has been handed a two match suspension.

Cantona has gone over 21 disciplinary points, having had bookings at Leeds before he joined United and two at Old Trafford.

He will miss the away games against Liverpool on March 6 and Oldham three days later.

■ KEVIN KEEGAN has put together a two-year deal designed to keep unhappy Czech keeper Pavel Smicek at Newcastle.

Kick-ins are given go-ahead

SOCCER chiefs agreed two days ago to experiment with kick-ins and sudden death extra time.

And the new rules could be introduced to England in 1995.

The decision to use kick ins for throw-ins and decide drawn games with the first goal in extra time was taken by the International Football Association Board in London.

And if the revolutionary changes are successful at youth tournaments in Australia, Japan and Turkey this year, they will then be tested in a major professional league next season before possibly being enforced worldwide.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said: "Kick-ins will gave more space to the game."

English FA chief executive Graham Kelly added: "There will be a full consultation and discussion in the coming months."

JUDGMENT PASSED



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